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THE AMERICAN MERCURY

A MONTHLY REVIEW

EDITED BY H · L · MENCKEN

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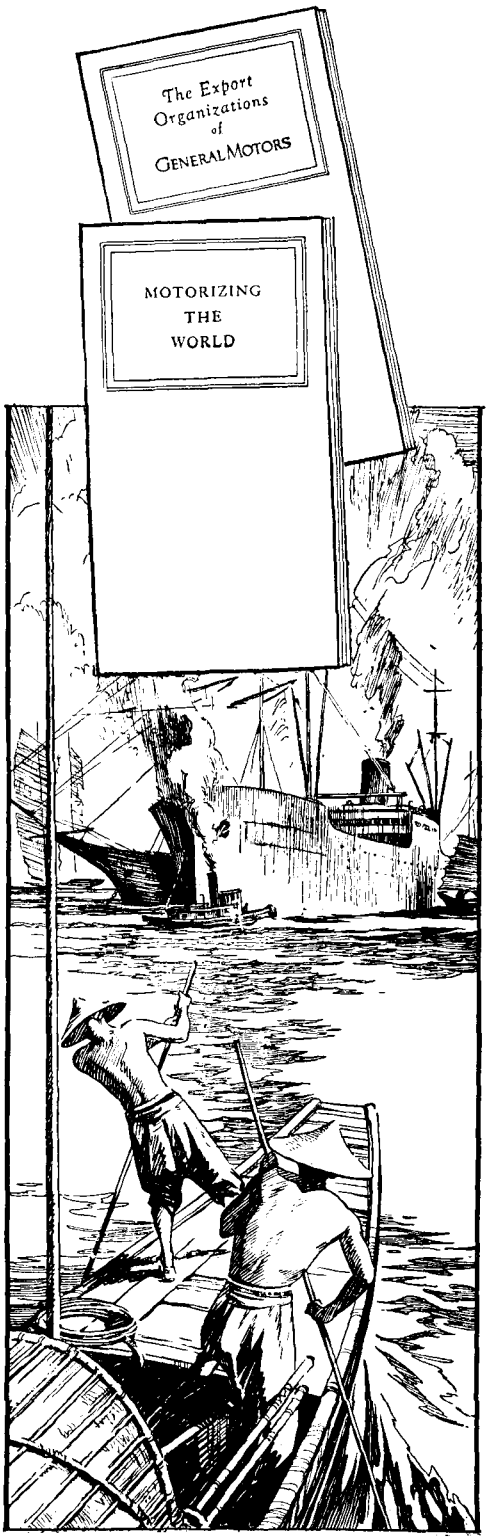

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The AMERICAN MERCURY

VOLUME XVIII December 1929 NUMBER 72

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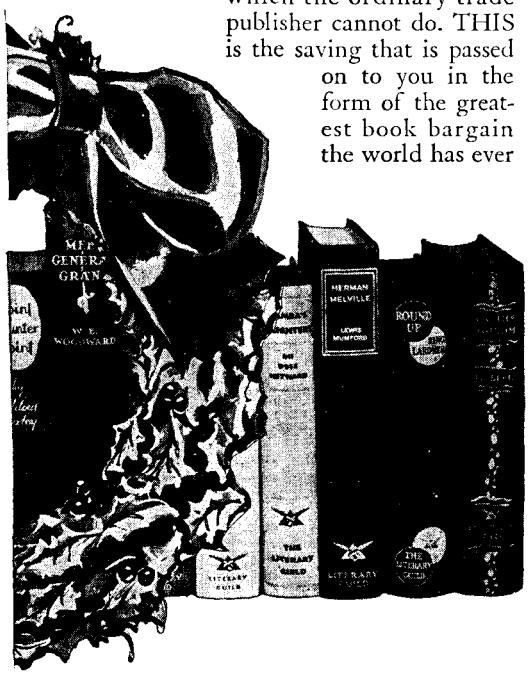

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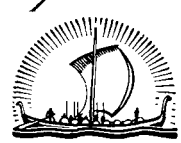

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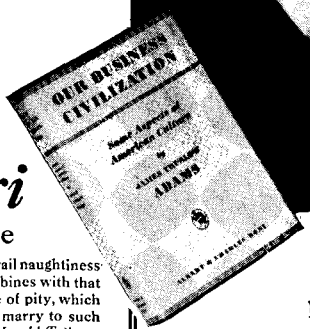

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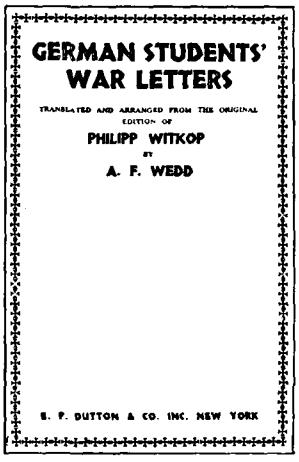

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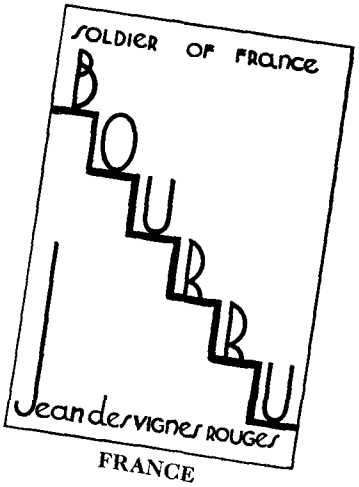

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(speak)
bouquet . . . . . **boo-kay**
(a bunch of flowers)
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(much, many)
mais oui . . . . . **may we**
(but, yes)

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CHECK LIST *of* NEW BOOKS

CRITICISM

ADVENTUROUS AMERICA. *A Study of Contemporary Life & Thought.*
By Edwin Mims. *Charles Scribner's Sons*
$2.50 7⅜ x 5⅛; 304 pp. *New York*

Professor Mims is convinced, albeit on somewhat shaky evidence, that pessimism is the hallmark of the modern movement in American letters. He confesses frankly that there is a certain ground for this pessimism, but opposes it as a Christian and a patriot. The future, he believes, is reassuring. As in the past, Americans will continue to experiment, and the fruit of their experimentation will be human progress. Even today he sees signs of it. The chautauqua has become intellectual. In California Professor Robert A. Millikan has reconciled science and religion, and so put an end to a war that began 10,000 years ago. In Nashville, Tenn., there is a symphony orchestra and a replica of the Parthenon, and poets sit up all night to discuss their art. The favorite authors of the president of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company are Shelley and Anatole France. The president of the University of Kentucky has "taken up landscape painting as a sideline." In New York Dr. Fosdick and Dr. Cadman are broadcasting "prophetic words." And in other fields valuable work is being done by Owen D. Young, Christopher Morley, Waldo Frank, William Allen White and Mrs. Katharine Fullerton Gerould, not to mention Dr. Hoover. The dangerous fellows are James Branch Cabell, Carl Sandburg, Edgar Lee Masters, Sinclair Lewis, Carl Van Vechten and company. Dr. Mims is professor of English at Vanderbilt University. He was born in Arkansas and took his Ph.D. at Cornell. He is a member of Phi Beta Kappa and of the Joint Hymn Book Committee of the Methodist Episcopal Church. His book is well documented and has a good index.

COLERIDGE ON LOGIC & LEARNING.
By Alice D. Snyder. *The Yale University Press*
$3 9½ x 6; 169 pp. *New Haven*

Coleridge left a huge pile of unpublished MSS. on logic, metaphysics, education, psychology and theology, and the tradition has been that most of them were not worth putting into print. Dr. Snyder, who is associate professor of English at Vassar, has made a thorough study of those dealing with reasoning and learning, and here presents numerous extracts from them, together with her criticisms. She has achieved a competent piece of research. It proves once more that outside the field of poetry criticism Coleridge usually made a sorry spectacle. He prided himself on his great insight into logic and the learning process, but he was really very ignorant of both. When writing about them he was generally either banal or unintelligible. He boasted to his friends that in all his philosophical thinking he was "strictly methodical" and scientific, but he was nothing of the sort. As Dr. Snyder says, "The excitement that he derived from thinking out the limitless implications of an idea was such that he must have found the ordinary processes of disinterested verification tedious, and he sometimes shirked them." He borrowed a great deal from Kant, Fichte and Herder, but it was only their rubbish. He never seemed to be able to grasp what they were trying to say. His comments on "The Critique of Pure Reason" and "The Critique of Practical Reason" are among the biggest jokes of philosophical literature. There are five illustrations and an index of personal names.

THE AMERICAN SCHOLAR. *A Study in Litteræ Inhumaniores.*
By Norman Foerster. The University of North Carolina Press
$1 8⅞ x 5¾; 67 pp. *Chapel Hill, N. C.*

With this excellent essay Dr. Foerster, who is professor of English literature at the University of North Carolina, proves once more that he is one of the most intelligent of the academic guardians of the national letters. It is a mighty blast against that greatest curse of contemporary American literary scholarship, the accumulation of insignificant facts. What is needed, he says, is less of this so-called knowledge and more critical thought. "Only by the integration of history and criticism, the temporary and the permanent, motion and rest, can the literary scholar really escape from the superficiality and futility that appear to crown all his labors." He also throws in a good whack at the spurious science that has crept into recent literary biography: "Amateurs and dabblers of all sorts have made a hasty study of both psychology and literature and written biographies and criticisms which are professedly science and actually buncombe." He believes that things could be greatly improved if the teaching system in the universities were more sensible. But this is a vain hope. The late Stuart P. Sherman spotted the reason long ago when he said that the good men almost never enter upon graduate literary study, thus eliminating themselves from academic careers, and that it is the most unfit who become doctors of philosophy and "go forth and reproduce their kind."

Continued on page xvi

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Here for the first time is a book that takes the reader not so much backstage as into the manager's office, the speculator's den, etc. The author is instructor of dramatic criticism at New York University. $2.50

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Continued from page xiv

OUR SINGING STRENGTH. *An Outline of American Poetry. 1620–1930.*
By Alfred Kreymborg. *Coward-McCann*
$5 9¼ x 6; 643 pp. *New York*

This is probably the most comprehensive survey of American poetry in print. It deals with every important poet in the history of the United States, and has a large number of exemplary quotations, though perhaps not enough of them. Mr. Kreymborg's criticisms are generally sound, but many people will differ with the high rating he gives to Emerson. He says of him that "he wrote poetry rarely equaled or surpassed by later Americans." As for his discussion of the moderns, to whom he devotes about half the book, he probably finds more merit in them than there actually is. He says nice things about even Cummings and Conrad Aiken. Anyway, all the boys and girls who have ever published a poem will find their names here, and very few of them will note any cause for complaint. There is an index, but no bibliography.

RELIGION

ECONOMIC CAUSES OF THE REFORMATION IN ENGLAND.
By Oscar Albert Marti. *The Macmillan Company*
$2.50 7¾ x 5⅜; 254 pp. *New York*

What Dr. Marti has to say here is not often new, but he has at least arranged a mass of scattered facts in an orderly manner and so given them a new force. It cannot be sufficiently emphasized that the great schism of the Sixteenth Century was only partly theological in origin and character. True enough, some of its salient leaders were professional theologians, but what moved most plain men, including most politicians and rulers, to sympathy with it was not discontent with Roman doctrine but discontent with Roman political and economic polity. The church, always ultra-conservative, hung on to feudalism long after the rest of Europe had begun to abandon it, and in the end that fidelity came near wrecking it. Dr. Marti describes at length the condition of affairs in England. Fully a third of the property of the nation was in ecclesiastical hands, and the influence of churchmen upon domestic administration and foreign policy was out of all proportion to their fitness for affairs. An explosion was inevitable, and when it came it was ruinous. The book is well documented and has a useful bibliography, but there is no index.

THE VAMPIRE IN EUROPE.
By Montague Summers. *E. P. Dutton & Company*
$5 9⅜ x 6¼; 330 pp. *New York*

Dr. Summers, who is a clergyman of the Church of England, has devoted himself for some years past to reviving and defending the old Christian belief in demons, witches and other such shapes. In the present work, as in "The History of Witchcraft" and "The Vampire: His Kith and Kin," he carries on that work with great ardor and a vast display of learning. He proves that all the great doctors of Holy Church believed in vampires, and that they had before them a formidable body of evidence in support of that belief. Theologically, the soundness of his position may be admitted. To this day, indeed, the reality of demoniacal possession is a cardinal article of Christian doctrine, and no important branch of the church challenges it. Dr. Summers presents a great mass of curious matter, much of it gathered from sources not easily accessible, and in addition he describes some experiences of his own, chiefly in Greece. His book is elaborately documented and has a good index.

HISTORY

SOME FORERUNNERS OF THE NEWSPAPER IN ENGLAND, 1476–1622.
By Matthias A. Shaaber.
The University of Pennsylvania Press
$4 9⅛ x 5⅞; 368 pp. *Philadelphia*

Newspapers were nearly a century old in Germany before the first appeared in England, but that is not saying that the English were without printed news. They had, indeed, a vast literature of broadsides, ballads, news-letters and other such things, some of them purely hortatory or polemical in purpose, but all of them containing more or less news. This literature Mr. Shaaber explores at great length, sorting it into categories in the best academic manner, and giving an account of its contents. His work plainly represents a formidable amount of labor. He adds a bibliography and an index.

NEW YORK IN THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.
By Wilbur C. Abbott. *Charles Scribner's Sons*
$3.50 9 x 5⅞; 302 pp. *New York*

The New York of the Revolutionary Period was one of the most interesting of the Thirteen Colonies, and a tremendous monograph literature has been written on it. Dr. Abbott, who is professor of history at Harvard, has here brought together all of this research, and thus achieved a real contribution to American historical scholarship. In 1763–1783 New York City was still relatively small, and its population was less than that of Philadelphia, but it was already an important commercial centre. Commerce, indeed, was its chief vocation. Its people cared little for cultural matters, and

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on that account were held in contempt by the Bostonians. John Adams said of their society: "There is little good breeding to be found. . . . At their entertainments there is no conversation that is agreeable; there is no modesty, no attention to one another. They talk very loud, very fast and altogether." Nevertheless, they were singularly liberal in religious matters, and did not drive people out for their opinions. They played an important part in the Revolution, and their land was the centre of some of the great military operations of the war. There are fourteen illustrations, an extensive bibliography and an index.

VIRGINIA & THE FRENCH & INDIAN WAR.
By Hayes Baker-Crothers. The University of Chicago Press
$2 7⅞ x 5¼; 179 pp. *Chicago*

Dr. Baker-Crothers, who is professor of history at the University of Maryland, has written an excellent monograph. He proves conclusively that the old notion that the immediate cause of the French and Indian War was a desire for land on the part of both contestants is wrong. There was plenty of waste land in Virginia, the centre of the ensuing hostilities, and in the neighboring Colonies, Pennsylvania, Maryland and the Carolinas. The real cause of the conflict was a desire for the monopoly of the Indian trade, which was "the foundation of the prosperity and very existence of New France," and of almost equal importance to the economic well-being of the British settlements. Dr. Baker-Crothers piles up a great deal of documentary evidence in favor of his thesis, and makes out a convincing case. There is a good bibliography, and also an index.

THE RESTORATION & THE JULY MONARCHY.
By J. Lucas-Dubreton. G. P. Putnam's Sons
$4.50 9⅛ x 5⅞; 381 pp. *New York*

This book belongs to the National History of France Series. The discussion of the politics of the time is admirable. The sections on Louis XVIII, Charles X, and Louis-Philippe leave nothing to be desired, and neither do those on Talleyrand and Richelieu. But the treatment of the cultural temper of the period is too scanty. Those were the great days of Balzac, Berlioz, Lamartine, Hugo, and Sainte-Beuve. They were surely as important in the shaping of modern France as were the politicians, but M. Lucas-Dubreton does little more than mention them. He dismisses Berlioz with three brief references, and Balzac with only six. There are bibliographies at the ends of the chapters, and an index.

EARLY AMERICAN COSTUME.
By Edward Warwick & Henry C. Pitz.
The Century Company
$4 8 x 5¼; 319 pp. *New York*

The authors begin with the European background, describe at length the clothing worn by the early colonists, North and South, and then bring their narrative down to the beginning of the Jackson era and then advance into the West. Their descriptions are very full and their illustrations miss no detail. Their work profits by the earlier books of Alice Morse Earle and Elizabeth McClellan, but is better organized and hence more useful than either. In addition to forty-four full page plates there are scores of illustrations in the text. At the end there are excellent bibliographies and a good index.

JULY '14.
By Emil Ludwig. G. P. Putnam's Sons
$3.50 8¾ x 6; 378 pp. *New York*

This is a sort of popularization of the revisionist stand on the origins of the World War. Dr. Ludwig has dug up no material that such historians as Fay, Barnes and Scott have not brought to light before. His general attitude in the main agrees with theirs. He thinks that "while exact calculations of relative responsibility are impossible, one can say that Vienna and Petersburg stand first; Berlin and Paris, their seconds, follow them, although at very different intervals; London comes a long way after." The majority of the European peoples were against the war, "which was in no way destined or inevitable. . . . Capable statesmen could . . . have achieved what the majority desired." Dr. Ludwig writes here in his usual omniscient manner, prying into everybody's thoughts and feelings, but on the whole he sticks pretty close to the facts. There are sixteen illustrations, but no bibliography or index. The translation is by C. A. Macartney.

BIOGRAPHY

FOURSQUARE. *The Story of a Fourfold Life.*
By John Rathbone Oliver. The Macmillan Company
$2.50 8½ x 5⅝; 305 pp. *New York*

Dr. Oliver is a man of most unusual career. Born at Albany in 1872 as the son of an Army officer and a member of one of the oldest of New England families, he took his A.B. at Harvard and then became a clergy-

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man in the Protestant Episcopal Church. After three years of service in Philadelphia he resigned his orders and prepared to enter an Anglican order in England. But he was diverted to Rome, and presently found himself at Innsbruck in the Tyrol, preparing to enter the Roman Catholic priesthood. There he suffered another change of heart, and, transferring to the medical faculty, took his M.D. degree at the local university. In 1914 he joined the Austrian Army as a medical officer and served until illness forced him to resign his commission. Then he returned to America, and has been here ever since. In twelve years he has managed to take his Ph.D. at the Johns Hopkins, majoring in Greek, to establish himself in medical practise as a psychiatrist, to gain a wide reputation as a criminologist, to reënter the Protestant Episcopal Church as a priest, and to write two very successful books, one of which came within an ace of winning the Pulitzer prize last year. He is now chief medical officer to the Supreme Bench of Baltimore, warden of Alumni Memorial Hall at the Johns Hopkins, professor of the history of medicine at the University of Maryland, and (at least on two days a week) an active clergyman. Such time as remains to him he devotes to his medical practise and his writing. He tells his story simply and well. It is surely one of the most extraordinary stories ever heard of.

MY UNCLE, KING GEORGE V.
By C. G. Gordon Haddon. *The Harhill Press*
$3.50 9 x 5¾; 256 pp. *New York*

This is an English match for "The President's Daughter." The author claims that his father was the Duke of Clarence, whose death in 1892 left the succession to the throne to his younger brother, now George V. The Duke went to India in 1889 and there met Mary Jane Haddon, the wife of a colonel in the Royal Engineers. They fell in love and spent much time together in India. Their son, the present chronicler, was born in 1890 in London, whither Mrs. Haddon had followed her royal lover. When he died she entered upon an alliance with a Lieut. Rogers, and in 1893 her husband divorced her. Thereafter she married twice more, took to drink, and sank to the lowest depths. Year after year she travelled from port to port in the English colonies of the East, harassing their officials with her demands for money and her scandalous mode of life. Finally she disappeared, and her son believes that she is dead. His story sounds plausible enough, but his telling of it is not likely to win any sympathy for him. His career, save for a brief period during the war, has been that of a rolling stone, wandering from one third-rate job to another. He has lived in India, Ceylon, China, South America, South Africa, and the Near East, always on the verge of want and always demanding help from the British government. He offers no proof of his claims. All the documentary evidence, he says, was stolen from him, and he hints that government agents had a hand in the theft. At the end of his book he prints some letters showing his vain efforts to get money out of King George.

AUDACIOUS AUDUBON.
By Edward A. Muschamp. *Brentano's*
$3.50 8¼ x 5½; 312 pp. *New York*

John James Audubon was born in France on May 5, 1780, and died in this country on January 27, 1851. His father tried to make a soldier and an engineer out of him, but John liked loafing better, and when he landed in New York at the age of eighteen was as determined as ever to keep on doing nothing. But soon he fell in love with Lucy Bakewell, a New York girl, and her father would not consent to the marriage unless he promised to earn a living. Then began his long and disastrous career as a merchant, clerk, miller and taxidermist, in the course of which he went into bankruptcy several times and also spent a while in jail. He had always been fond of painting birds, so now, to save his wife and children from starvation, he tried his hand at painting portraits, landscapes, street signs and animals. He was an enormous success, and before long was well fixed financially. He therefore went back to his birds, and in a short time produced his two masterpieces, "Ornithological Biographies" and "The Birds of America," which won him instant fame in both America and Europe, and secured for him an eminent place in the history of science. Darwin refers to him frequently in "The Origin of Species" and "The Descent of Man." Mr. Muschamp tells his story in a straightforward and interesting manner. There are five illustrations and a brief bibliographical note, but an index is lacking.

THE LETTERS OF DISRAELI.
Edited by Lawrence Dundas. *D. Appleton & Company*
$10 9¼ x 6⅛; 2 vols.; 426 + 410 pp. *New York*

"Except upon business," said Disraeli, "male society is not much to my taste. . . . I require sympathy; but male sympathy does not suit me, and I am fastidious as to the other sex." Thus when he was made a widower at the age of seventy he was very miserable. But before long he found consolation in the company of two lovely sisters, the Countess of Chesterfield and the Countess of Bradford. Both were grandmothers at the time. The first was two years his senior and the second fifteen years his junior. The latter

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appealed to him more at first. He immediately set to winning her love, but failed. She was generally bored with him, and would not even do him the honor of reading his books. He therefore tackled the second, and was somewhat more successful with her, but apparently never as much as he wanted to be. Anyway, he wrote some 1600 letters to both of them—500 to Lady Chesterfield and 1100 to Lady Bradford. They are all very dignified in tone, and full of material of the greatest biographical value. All sorts of political gossip are in them, and also long confessional passages that throw much light on the inner workings of the man. He was apparently very lonely, even at the height of his glory, and whoever would listen to his woes, especially if it was a charming woman, won his instant affection. Most of the letters are published in the present volumes for the first time. The editor's explanatory notes throughout are excellent, and so is his introduction. There are many fine illustrations. André Maurois contributes a brief foreword. There is an index at the end of Volume II.

A CURIOUS LIFE.
By George Wehner. *Horace Liveright*
$2.50 8 x 5⅜; 402 pp. *New York*

Mr. Wehner was born in Detroit with a caul or veil. His first psychic experiences, he says, came when he was a child and as a result of his intense love for his mother. At these times he saw the misty form of an Indian, White Cloud, his guardian or control, behind her. Later, he was able to communicate with "the elementary sprites of Nature"—elves, pixies and gnomes—who lacked wings but traveled rapidly through the air astride bees and butterflies. He experienced, at such times, a strange sensation in his head—a feeling under the skin, as if a tissue were being drawn out, a veil being subtly extracted. Years later, on the occasion of his first trance, he felt nauseated, and this he explains as due to the chemical changes the spirit guides had to make in his physical being before he could be used as a medium. Since then he has given sittings for the American Society for Psychical Research, the Duc and Duchess of Richelieu, Miss Edna Ferber, Mrs. Harry Bamberger, Mrs. Oliver Harriman, Miss Sophie Irene Loeb, Mrs. Rudolph Valentino (Natacha Rambova), and others. At a sitting for Miss Margaret Woodrow Wilson, the spirit of her late father appeared, giving as his name one known only to the family; at another séance in the Mormon Tabernacle at Salt Lake City, he whispered personal messages from Brigham Young and Joseph Smith. An obviously sincere performance, but full of comedy. Talbot Mundy has done the evangelical foreword.

FOCH. *My Conversations with the Marshal.*
By Raymond Recouly. *D. Appleton & Company*
$3 8⅜ x 5½; 320 pp. *New York*

M. Recouly became a personal friend of the Marshal shortly after the World War, and enjoyed his confidence from then on almost till his death. In that time he used to visit him regularly twice a month, and sometimes oftener. The present book is a report of the conversations he had with him. It deals almost wholly with military affairs, and has great biographical importance. Foch, it now appears, was convinced that the Allies could have ended the war in 1917. He said to M. Recouly: "Toward the end of 1916 and the beginning of 1917 Germany was at the end of her tether. A well-planned series of maneuvres would have overthrown her completely." Of Ludendorff he did not think so much. He said: "He was an excellent staff officer, nothing more nor less. He was a typical Prussian officer, and had all the typical good and bad qualities. He was merely a machine for leading soldiers. He lacked the inner flame of Blücher, York and their companions. He was born a century too late; he should have lived under Frederick II." Of Germany as a whole he spoke thus: "The Prussian Army has no ideals, no true spiritual strength; neither has the whole nation. All they have is gross materialism." As everybody knows, he was extremely religious, and was intolerant of unbelievers. Of a certain prominent politician he said: "He is a skeptic. He believes in nothing. So he will come to nothing." M. Recouly thinks that Foch was "the greatest military leader of our time and of all times." The translation is by Joyce Davis.

BARRIE. *The Story of a Genius.*
By J. A. Hammerton. *Dodd, Mead & Company*
$5 9½ x 6⅛; 500 pp. *New York*

The Barrie fans will be grateful to Mr. Hammerton for this book. There is very little criticism in it, but the amount of information is staggering. Mr. Hammerton piles it up with little discrimination; he gives tens of pages to such relatively trivial things as the advertisements of Barrie's early novels, his letters of endorsement of certain brands of tobacco, the manner in which some of his plays were filmed, and his youthful and none too successful attempts at verse. But the worshippers of the author of "Peter Pan" will gobble it all up. There are thirty-five illustrations, and an index.

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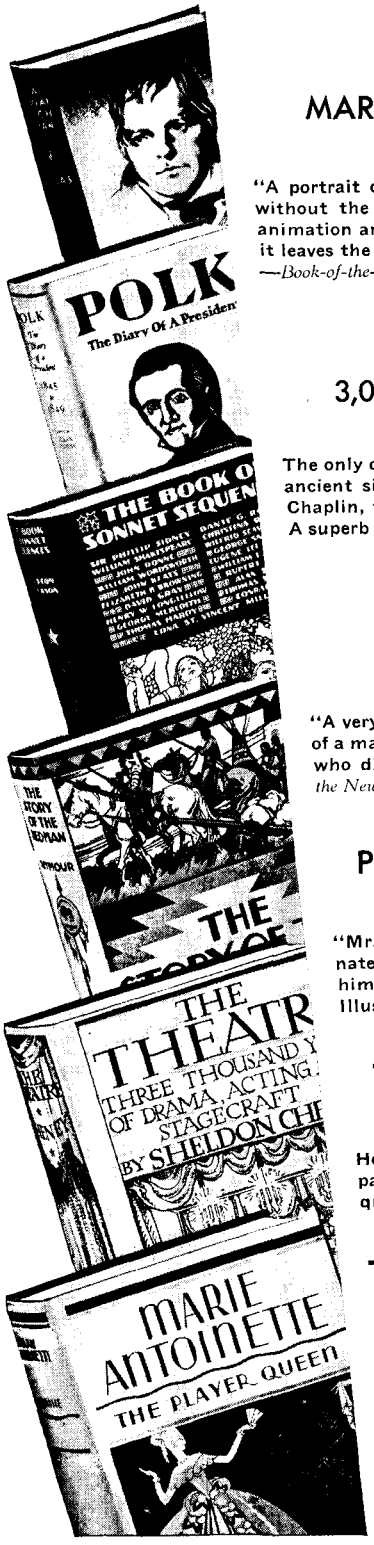

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POLK. *The Diary of a President.*
Edited by Allan Nevins. *Longmans, Green & Company*
$5 9½ x 6¼; 412 pp. *New York*

President Polk was one of the three occupants of the White House who kept a diary while in office. The other two were Rutherford B. Hayes and J. Q. Adams. Historically, Polk's diary is perhaps the most important of the lot, since his administration covered the Mexican War, the acquisition of Oregon, and the conquest of California and the Southwest. The present book is made up of selections from "The Diary of James K. Polk During his Presidency, 1845 to 1849," in four volumes, edited and annotated by Milo Milton Quaife and published in 1910 by the Chicago Historical Society. There is a good introduction by Mr. Nevins, in which he points out that Polk was really not as bad as Hayes or Coolidge. He did not read much, nor did he have any interest in the arts, but he "was certainly also incapable of deceit and double-dealing." He worked so hard at his job that he survived his presidency by only a few months. There are twenty illustrations and an index.

EMERSON. *The Wisest American.*
By Phillips Russell. *Brentano's*
$5 9½ x 6¼; 320 pp. *New York*

The sub-title of this book fits in very well with its general character. It is a superficial job. Mr. Russell does little more than give the bare facts of Emerson's life, with an occasional sigh here and there in the best manner of the "imaginative" school of modern biography. The one time he attempts criticism, in the last chapter, he makes a sorry spectacle. "In literature," he says, "Emerson was our only Olympian, and all criticisms of his precepts must appear somewhat niggardly in the light of his personal splendor. . . . The man himself," he adds, "was a whole," whatever that may mean. There are eight illustrations.

CARLYLE. *To Threescore-and-Ten.*
By David Alec Wilson. *E. P. Dutton & Company*
$6 8⅞ x 5¾; 604 pp. *New York*

This is Volume V in the projected six-volume biography of the Sage of Chelsea. Like its predecessors, it is admirably written and full of fresh material. It covers the period 1853–1865, the twelve years it took Carlyle to write his "History of Frederick the Great," his last major work. Mr. Wilson says of it: "It is as vivid as Homer and as wise as Tacitus, and while it is as readable as Voltaire's histories, it is as accurate as anything written in any language." This is going a little too far. It is a commonplace of modern historical scholarship that "Frederick" is full of errors of omission and of commission. There was so much hero-worship in Carlyle that he was unable to write a wholly accurate biography or history. His "French Revolution" has long been discredited. There are seven portraits and an index.

A GREAT RICH MAN.
By Louise Schutz Boas. *Longmans, Green & Company*
$3.50 8¾ x 5¾; 224 pp. *New York*

Another one of those "imaginative" biographies, with lots of "psychological interpretation." Mrs. Boas quotes no authorities and uses dates and other facts sparingly. She relies mainly on her imagination, the chief tool of the new and horrible art. This, of course, does not deter her from writing omnisciently. She knows that when Scott once met his first sweetheart, the beautiful Williamina Stuart, "he kissed her hand; she blushed, and withdrew her fingers from his grasp; but she did not chide him." She knows that when the girl's father heard of the love-affair, he said to his wife, "Pshaw! 'Tis only puppy love. He'll get over it. Ye're sure our Willie hasna lost her heart to him?" She knows that when Scott was once sick, his wife Charlotte "hovered by his bed, smoothing his pillow, administering draughts, sympathetic over pain, happy when it was finally relieved. She knew how to make a patient comfortable." And she also knows that after Scott's wife died "he slept ill, dreaming that she was beside him." Mrs. Boas should be able to write a very interesting biography of Adam.

IBSEN THE MASTER BUILDER.
By A. E. Zucker. *Henry Holt & Company*
$3.50 8½ x 5⅜; 312 pp. *New York*

Dr. Zucker does not attempt a critical appraisement of Ibsen's plays; he confines himself as strictly as possible to the life of the man. His laborious inquiries in Norway and Germany have brought forth a great deal of unfamiliar matter, and he presents it simply and effectively. On his very first page he lays an error that has haunted all discussions of Ibsen since Henrik Jaeger's pioneer biography was printed in 1888—the error, to wit, that Ibsen "had not a drop of Norwegian blood in his veins." Dr. Zucker shows that he was actually 229/256 Norwegian. For the rest, he was 1/256 Scotch and 8/256 German. The chapters on the dramatist's early days are especially rich in new material. The author tells the sad story of the bankruptcy and collapse of Ibsen *père*, and of the subsequent decay of the family. Of the four brothers, only Henrik was ever heard of in the world. The eldest, Johan, came to America in 1849 and died in the California gold rush. Nicolai died as a sheepherder in Iowa. Ole,

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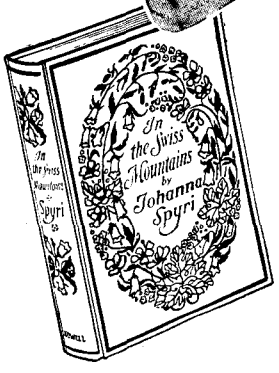

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the youngest, became a lighthouse-keeper in Norway. The sister, Hedvig, did a bit better. She married a ship captain, one Stousland, and turned agnostic in middle age, after a pious youth. One of her sons, Captain John Ibsen Stousland, now lives at Rutherford, N. J. Dr. Zucker's book is well documented. It will displace all other biographies of Ibsen, nine-tenths of which are trash. The author is an Indianan, and since 1923 has been professor of modern languages and comparative literature at the so-called University of Maryland.

THE MYSTERY MAN OF EUROPE. *Sir Basil Zaharoff.*
By Richard Lewinsohn. *The J. B. Lippincott Company*
$3 8¾ x 5¾; 241 pp. *Philadelphia*

The subject of this biography was born as Zacharias Basileios Zaharoff on October 6, 1846, in Mughla, a Greek village in Asia Minor. After one of the periodical Turkish massacres he fled with his family to Odessa. Soon he tired of the city, and went to Constantinople. He was very poor, so he did anything at all to earn a living. He learned all the languages of the Balkans, could speak French well, and had a useful knowledge of English, but he was still a man without a home and without money. He went into business with an uncle, but that only brought trouble. The uncle accused him of theft, and the government was after him for murder. Zaharoff now maintains that he was innocent of both charges; nevertheless, at the time, he fled to London. He couldn't do a thing there, so he took a chance and returned to Constantinople. Then, in 1877, by a stroke of pure luck, he was appointed Eastern representative of the Nordenfeldt armament firm, with headquarters in London. He was now in his element. Fortunately, Greece and Turkey were soon at war, and he sold munitions to both, "though he was patriotic enough to make the first offer" of the first submarine to his native country. "There is no room," says Dr. Lewinsohn, who is financial editor of the *Vossiche Zeitung*, "for sentimental patriotism in this most international of all industries." Zaharoff traveled constantly from country to country, making friends with cabinet ministers and high army officers, and fostering "patriotism" everywhere. He made sure that "when a government policy did not result in sufficient orders, that policy was changed." In the Boer War he sold arms to both England and the Boers, though his company, "the firm of Vickers Maxim, demonstrated its patriotism by doubling the zeal with which it supplied guns to fight the Boers." This firm, incidentally, had among its shareholders "sixty members of the aristocracy, eight members of Parliament, and five bishops." The World War was "a great time" for Zaharoff, naturally. He was the friend of Lloyd George, Viviani, and Briand, and thus was well stocked with orders. In 1918 he was awarded the Grand Cross of the Order of the British Empire and was also made a Grand Officer of the Legion of Honor by the President of France. To demonstrate his gratitude, he endowed a chair of French literature at Oxford and a chair of English literature at the Sorbonne. The Oxford chair received the name of Marshal Foch, and the Sorbonne one that of Field Marshal Haig. Oxford recognized Zaharoff's gift by making him a D. C. L. In 1924, at the age of seventy-eight, this international public servant married Mme. Maria del Pilar Antonia-Patrocinio-Simona de Muquiro y Beruete, the widowed Duchesse de Villafranca de los Caballeros. She died eighteen months later. Zaharoff now lives in Monte Carlo, from where he sends out contributions every now and then in behalf of French athletics and the underfed animals in the Paris zoo. There are eight illustrations.

THE MAKING OF NEW GERMANY.
By Philipp Scheidemann. *D. Appleton & Company*
$10 9¼ x 6⅛; 2 vols.; 367 + 372 pp. *New York*

Scheidemann was born in Cassel on July 26, 1865, the son of a master carpenter, paperhanger and upholsterer. His father died when he was only a boy, and he had to go to work. For the first few years life was extremely harsh to him. He went without food or shelter for days on end, and for a while had to resort to begging to keep from starving. Then he grabbed an opportunity to learn the printing trade, and traveled all over the country as a tramp printer. Finally he settled in Marburg, married, and joined the labor movement, editing and publishing innumerable Socialist pamphlets and broadsides. He was a powerful speaker and agitator, and in 1903 achieved membership in the Reichstag. Eight years later he was elected to the executive committee of the Social Democratic party, and by 1914 was the leader of the radical movement in Germany. In that capacity he was on intimate terms with such Marxian whales as Bebel, Karl and William Liebknecht, Kautsky, Rosa Luxemburg, Clara Zetkin, Ebert and Bernstein. He actively supported the government during the war, thereby earning for himself the everlasting contempt of the Communists and the left wing Socialists, though he caused the Kaiser a lot of worry with his persistent, even if half-hearted, talk of peace. Anyway, he was one of the leaders of the Revolution, and was Chancellor in the Provisional Government of 1919. Soon Hindenburg and Stresemann came into power, and he

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was pushed into the background, where he has been ever since. His present book is rather disappointing. The first 250 pages of Volume I, dealing with his career before the World War, are very readable because of their purely biographical interest, though there is little discussion in them of the fundamental economic and political movements of pre-war Germany. The remainder of Volume I and the whole of Volume II deal with the history of the country through the war to the establishment of the Ebert government. There is little in them that is not known to every newspaper reader. There are seventeen illustrations, and an index at the end of Volume II. The translation is by J. E. Michell.

THE SCIENCES

THE SCIENCE OF LIVING.
By Alfred Adler. *Greenberg*
$3.50 8¼ x 5⅜; 264 pp. *New York*

Dr. Adler, professor of psychology at the Institute of Vienna, is the generalissimo of all the armies of individual psychologists. He is, in fact, the founder of the new science, which "begins and ends with the problem of inferiority," and which, in turn, is "the basis for all our problems of psychological maladjustment." In the present book he considers such matters as old remembrances, the hated and petted child and what they usually end up as in later years, female biological envy, male biological envy, the varieties of dreams, and the place of sex in the normally integrated life. What he says about all these problems is not especially profound. His remarks, indeed, are so superficial that the followers of Freud or of Jung or of Ferenczi will find nothing to disagree with. He does not grapple with fundamentals, and is plainly addressing people with almost no previous knowledge of psychopathology. For a foreword there is a thirty-page essay by M. Phillipe Mairet on Dr. Adler and his work, in which he says of the doctor that "if the Occidental world is not too far gone to make use of his service he may well come to be known as the Confucius of the West." There is no bibliography or index.

PETROLEUM & COAL. *The Keys to the Future.*
By W. T. Thom, Jr. *The Princeton University Press*
$2.50 8⅞ x 5⅞; 223 pp. *Princeton*

Dr. Thom, who is associate professor of geology at Princeton, discusses the origin, composition and classification of coal and oil; their various uses and geographic occurrence; and the conditions and probable futures of the two industries. He does not deal with the labor problems involved. As for the future he says this: "With unrestricted trade, the world situation as regards coal warrants thrift but no fear of shortage, and the petroleum situation is such that if research be adequately supported, and if sane and just policies be pursued, civilization may earn its way as it goes, in so far as oil supplies are concerned, for very many years to come." There are many illustrations and a bibliography.

LET'S BE NORMAL.
By Fritz Künkel. *Ives Washburn*
$3 8¼ x 5⅝; 299 pp. *New York*

Dr. Künkel, one of the leading German psychologists of the Adlerian school, has here written a popular discussion of some of the more common psychic disturbances, such as egocentricity, irritability, excessive sociability, the abnormal desire for solitude, miserliness, and the various sex fears. As an individual psychologist, he tries to explain almost everything in terms of infantile inferiority or superiority, but in the present book at least he is not fanatic about it. Toward the end are four interesting case histories. There is a brief bibliography, and also an index. The translation is by Eleanore Jensen.

ESSAYS

FRED NEWTON SCOTT PAPERS.
The University of Chicago Press
$5 9½ x 6¼; 319 pp. *Chicago*

Dr. Scott was professor of English literature at the University of Chicago from 1888 to 1926, when he retired. The present book, made up of fourteen papers by former students of his, was recently presented to him "in celebration of his . . . distinguished service" in the university. Dr. Scott probably felt greatly honored, because the essays are in line with his own notions of what literary criticism should be, but viewed coldly they make very sad reading. They are all badly written and deal with matters that are not worth writing about. Dr. George Bion Denton, "professor of technical writing" at Northwestern University, is concerned with "the facts explaining the discrepancy between the treatment in the first fifty-seven paragraphs of [Spencer's] 'Philosophy of Style' and that in the last paragraph." Dr. Ernest Sutherland Bates, associate editor of the Dictionary of National Biography, deals with the juvenile works of Shelley, which he admits were bad. Dr. Charles C. Fries, professor of English at the University of Michigan, lets the world know that there are "practically no cases in which the English translators of the 1611 Bible use the descriptive attributive adjective from choice." And so on. At the end there is a bibliography of Dr. Scott's works.

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CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

Continued from page xxx

IN THE EVENING OF MY THOUGHT.
By Georges Clemenceau. The Houghton Mifflin Company
$12.50 9¾ x 6¼; 2 vols.; 482 + 525 pp. *Boston*

This is a collection of essays on almost every branch of human thought. M. Clemenceau writes on psychology, anthropology, paleontology, astronomy, politics, religion, metaphysics and literature with sure and vast knowledge, and what he has to say about them is nearly always fresh. He has no use whatever for religion, especially Christianity, and puts all his trust in science. "God," he says, "is nothing but a word, bearing no relation to fact. . . . Experimental proof is established as the only criterion of truth." Christianity is no better than other religions; if anything, it is worse, since it has brought a great deal more woe to the world. As "specimens of human greatness Buddha, Socrates and many others were no whit inferior to Jesus." Freedom of the will is no more than "an illusory sensation," and we have no reason whatever for believing in immortality. "The only basis of human morality . . . is man himself." It is foolish to look for ethical principles from above. The plain fact is that we all "have more foresight and kind-heartedness than Divinity." Man is helpless, more often than not, before the forces of nature. "He is subservient to the ends of the universe. . . . At best, life is the implacable law which requires us to atone for our emotional pleasures. It is a series of favors diversely felt and diversely paid for." Nevertheless, there is tremendous drama in it, and the better we understand it the more enjoyable is the spectacle. With this knowledge man can transform his life into "a rich idealism that would make him the equal of the gods, did not the pangs of following out his own destiny already make him superior to them." The translation is by Charles Minor Thompson and John Heard, Jr. For a frontispiece to Volume I there is an excellent portrait of the Tiger.

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

HUMANITY UPROOTED.
By Maurice Hindus. Jonathan Cape & Harrison Smith
$3 8¾ x 5⅝; 369 pp. *New York*

Mr. Hindus was born in a Russian village, and did not see a railroad train or an electric light till he was fourteen, when he left for the United States. He returned to Russia in 1923 for a rather lengthy visit, and since then has made trips there almost annually. The present book is the result of these visits. It is an unusually sober and ably written account of the religious, moral, and politico-economic affairs of the land. The chapter on the changes in the sex *mores* is exceptionally good. The fact is, says Mr. Hindus, that the "free life" was much easier of realization in Russia than, probably, in any other country. "Neither chivalry nor Puritanism had secured the clutch on Russia that they had on other lands." The relations of the sexes was "always close, simple, unaffected." He might have added that the same was and still is true of all other Slavic countries. As for the economic condition of the land, he says that "at present the Russians themselves admit that on the economic side their collectivism can boast of no successes which private enterprise is achieving, neither in the province of production nor distribution." His general conclusion is this: "Agony there is in Russia, more, I am sure, than in any land in the world. Rapture also, the highest man ever has tasted." Dr. John Dewey contributes an introduction, and Arthur Hawkins, Jr., a number of fine drawings.

THIS AVIATION BUSINESS.
By Ernest W. Dichman. Brentano's
$3.50 8¾ x 5½; 274 pp. *New York*

Mr. Dichman has been an aviator for fourteen years. In this book he presents a brief survey of the history of aviation, and discusses some of its present problems. He writes very well, and is extremely sober, for a man of his profession, in his predictions about the future. He warns the public about "a false sense of security about aviation," and adds: "To say that passenger airplanes are at present as safe as passenger trains is to ignore plain facts." He thinks that if aviation "develops no faster than railroads, it will be near the year 2000 before aërial transport will generally be used." There are many illustrations, a glossary and an index.

SMALL TOWNS. *An Estimate of Their Trade and Culture.*
By Walter Burr. The Macmillan Company
$2.50 7⅜ x 4¾; 267 pp. *New York*

Dr. Burr, who is professor of rural sociology at the University of Missouri, says that the whole complexion of rural life in America has changed within the past few years. The small farm is going out, destroyed by its own inefficiency, and agriculture is rapidly taking on factory characteristics. In the South and elsewhere, to be sure, tenant farmers survive miserably, but they are no more typical of the new farming class than slum-dwellers are typical of city folk. Dr. Burr believes that nearly all the politicians who promise to help the farmers with legislation are mountebanks. The remedies they offer simply cannot stem the tide of natural forces, and they know it. Farming is being reorganized, and when the process is complete the

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This great romantic biography has won the applause of critics everywhere. Harry Hansen, of the *New York World,* called it "tremendously entertaining"; *The New Yorker* says it's "the best reading of its kind since *Henry the VIIIth.*"

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CHECK LIST OF NEW BOOKS

Continued from page xxxii

old-time one-horse farmer will be eliminated. The author discusses at length the effects of these changes upon the small towns. He believes that they, too, must reorganize themselves. At present, aping the cities, they pursue chimeras. The book shows wide information and is thoughtfully written.

ANTHOLOGIES

SO SAY THE WISE.
Edited by Hazel Cooley and Norman L. Corwin. *George Sully & Company*
$2 7½ x 5⅛; 275 pp. *New York*

The editors have here assembled about 1300 epigrams and apothegms from modern sages, most of them still alive. Some of these sayings are mere wheezes and wise-cracks; others pretend to a more solemn wisdom. The persons levied on number 650, and include Mr. Hoover, Lady Astor, Bernarr Macfadden, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, Rabindranath Tagore, Admiral von Tirpitz, the Prince of Wales, Grover Whalen, Jimmy Walker, Al Smith, Ezra Pound, Adolph S. Ochs, Christopher Morley, Judge Ben B. Lindsey, Otto H. Kahn, Will Rogers, Elinor Glyn, Texas Guinan, Senator Borah, Mr. Justice Brandeis, Charlie Chaplin, Bugs Baer and Rebecca West.

THE GRUB STREET BOOK OF VERSE, 1929.
Edited by Henry Harrison. *Henry Harrison*
$5 9⅜ x 6; 79 pp. *New York*

The editor of this anthology, which presents 121 poems by 99 poets, is the present captain-general of Greenwich Village, and his selections exhibit pretty well what is going on there at the moment. Obviously enough, the Golden Age is over. His poets, in the main, write very conventionally, and some of them get little beyond the prettiness of high-school bards. Perhaps the best poem in the collection is "In a Strange City," by Shaemus O'Sheel. What it has to say has been said before, but there is a certain eloquence in it. Most of the other poets simply twitter. There are a number of full-page illustrations by Charles Cullen.

NEW EDITIONS

MEN & WOMEN.
By Havelock Ellis. *The Houghton Mifflin Company*
$5 8¾ x 5½; 495 pp. *Boston*

The first edition of this standard text-book of secondary and tertiary sexual differences appeared in 1894 as a sort of prolegomenon to the author's "Studies in the Psychology of Sex." Its value was recognized at once, and since then it has passed through many editions and has been translated into most civilized languages. Now it appears "remolded and put into a more popular form," but without any sacrifice of essentials. It is a thorough and excellent piece of work. The author's chief observations are that women are more variable than men, and more precocious. They represent, so to speak, an earlier form of *Homo sapiens*, and in many ways, both physical and psychic, are more like children than like adult men. "The differences may be often of a slight or subtle character, but they are none the less real, and they extend to the smallest details of organic constitution. . . . When women differ from men, it is the latter who have diverged, leaving women nearer to the child-type." The book is well documented and has a good index.

THE STORISENDE EDITION OF THE WORKS OF JAMES BRANCH CABELL.
Robert McBride & Company
$180 9 x 6; 18 vols.; average of 300 pp. *New York*

Mr. Cabell has now reached Vol. XV of this elaborate revision of all his books: it is devoted to "The Eagle's Shadow." He speaks somewhat sadly in his preface of the changes that time has brought. "Only in 'The Cream of the Jest' and in its temporal successors," he says, "have I had any sense of dealing with my own work." The earlier books were "written by persons who are to me, nowadays, comparative strangers." "The Eagle's Shadow" was first published in October, 1904, after first running as a serial in—of all magazines!—the *Saturday Evening Post*. The sale of the first edition stopped at 2871 copies. In his preface to "The Rivet in Grandfather's Neck," which forms Vol. XIV of the new edition, Mr. Cabell recounts how it was entered in a prize competition in 1913, and beaten by a book called "Diane of the Green Van," by one Leona Dalrymple. Thereafter the MS. was rejected by fully a score of publishers, and when it was finally accepted by McBride it turned out a complete failure. Vol. XIII is given over to the author's verse and to his only play, "The Jewel Merchants". The earliest of the verses go back to 1895; not a few of them, as the author says, have been "a little prinked and titivated." The remaining three volumes of the Storisende Edition will be published in March.

FICTION

THE GOLDEN WIND.
By Takahi Ohta & Margaret Sperry. *Charles Boni*
7⅛ x 4¾; 269 pp. *New York*

This is the first volume of Mr. Boni's series of Paper Books, offered to subscribers at $5 for twelve monthly

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volumes. The experiment will be watched with interest by all persons concerned with books, for the price is far below what is usually demanded. The volumes are not reprints, but original works. In format they are dignified, substantial and very charming. The excellent designs for the stiff paper covers and for the end papers were made by Rockwell Kent, and the type pages were laid out by Elmer Adler, who designed THE AMERICAN MERCURY. The paper used is thin but opaque and the binding is such that the volume may be opened flat. Books for the series will be chosen by a board consisting of Louis Untermeyer, Padraic Colum, Lincoln Colcord, Everett Dean Martin and Horace M. Kallen, all of them men of wide literary experience and good judgment. The first volume is a novel written in collaboration by a Japanese man and a Swedish-American woman, and the material for it comes out of the first author's life. It deals with the adventures of a young Jap exiled from his own country for political reasons. He goes to China, joins one of the revolutionary armies, and then wanders to Northern Manchuria. The *motif* is his struggle to orient himself in his strange surroundings and find a new and plausible meaning in life—above all, his quest for the "beauty that is for him emblematic of the country of his soul." The thing is done imaginatively and with considerable effect: it is an interesting novelty. There is an introduction by Padraic Colum, and at the end is printed a brief note on the two authors.

RED CAVALRY.
By I. Babel. *Alfred A. Knopf*
$2.50 7⅝ x 5⅛; 213 pp. *New York*

Babel was born in Odessa in 1894, the son of Jewish parents, and twenty years later took his degree at the University of Saratov. He was, of course, a revolutionist, but somehow always managed to keep out of the Czarist jails, though he was indicted on several occasions. With the aid of false passports he moved about freely all over the land, and for a time even lived in Petrograd, which was forbidden territory to all save a few Jews. In 1920 he joined General Budeny's Cossacks, who, before the Revolution, were a notorious band of murderers and anti-Semites, but since then have done good service for the Bolsheviks. In the present book Babel gives thirty-four sketches of the life of these simple, ignorant, savage and somewhat sentimental warriors. They are all extremely well done, but perhaps the best of the lot is "Treason." It is the story of three badly wounded Cossacks, who have just been brought to hospital, and are dumbfounded when a doctor orders them to chuck off their clothes and arms, "as if we were already conquered! . . . We can see through treason easy enough." They

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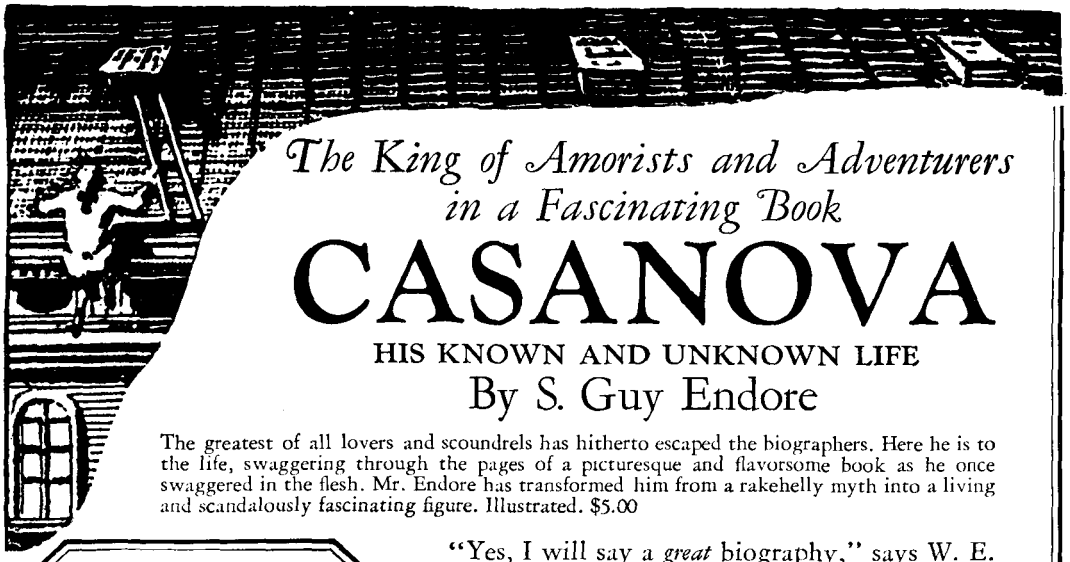

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For sheer diversion we recommend *Cross Word Puzzles from Judge*, with its wayward definitions; Rube Goldberg's uproarious little book *Is There a Doctor in the House?* and two books on bridge: *Contract*, by George Reith of the *Knickerbocker* Whist Club and *Advanced Auction and Contract Bridge*, by Ada Campbell Kelley.

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can't make out the smiling of the nurses and the quietness of the other soldiers, "sitting about on made beds playing draughts." They lose their heads and rush out into the square in front of the hospital. "Treason was blinking at us from the windows and making game of the common proletariat." The translation from the Russian is by Nadia Helstein.

THE METHODIST FAUN.
By Anne Parrish. *Harper & Brothers*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 334 pp. *New York*

Clifford Hunter, the son of a sanctimonious Methodist mother and a mild, easy-going father—a small-town photographer—, is completely in revolt against his native Pine Hill. When he gives up his Sunday morning walk in the woods to go to church with his mother, he takes a profane delight in wearing a soft collar with an orange tie. He wears his hair longer than other boys and tries to paint; but unfortunately he paints badly and the only justification for his pretensions is his intense love of nature, which none of his townsmen understands. At eighteen, he falls in love with beautiful, sophisticated Cathleen King, who comes back from abroad to spend a year with her aunt. When Cathleen discourages his attentions, and he fails to achieve a career in New York, he marries witless Martha Simpson, who teaches Sunday-school and plays the organ in church. For a brief moment he drowns his unhappiness with her in his passion for Evie Davis, the pretty assistant in his father's shop. But his true release comes only when, ill with pneumonia, he escapes the watchers in the sickroom to find death in the woods. Miss Parrish writes well and with fine irony.

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By J. B. Priestley. *Harper & Brothers*
$3 8 x 5½; 640 pp. *New York*

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troupe. The third, Mr. Inigo Jollifant, now in his twenty-sixth year, a Cambridge graduate and an incurable romantic, teaches history, French and English literature in the depressing Washbury Manor School. But his real talent is for the piano and the composing of amusing little tunes, so with his escape he becomes an important member of the party. Mr. Priestley writes charmingly and gayly, but his narrative runs somewhat thin through his 600 odd pages.

WIDE FIELDS.
By Paul Green. *Robert M. McBride & Company*
$2.50 7¾ x 5; 280 pp. *New York*

These short stories and sketches of the Little Bethel neighborhood of Eastern North Carolina are written in the dialect of the region, and present some striking characterizations, notably in Eddie York, in "A Tempered Man": "a good fellow but endowed with too fiery a spirit—he was hanged for the murder of his wife"; and Uncle January Evans, in "The First Death": "the worse reprobate in Little Bethel. . . . He died in the bosom of the church and on his deathbed he laughed and said he heard angel 'whings.'"

ON THE MAKE.
By John Riordan. *Farrar & Rinehart*
$2.50 7⅝ x 5; 297 pp. *New York*

Fourteen sketches of adolescents in their groping search for adventure. There are shop girls and flappers, students and mechanics, all exceedingly unprepossessing and repetitious, "always at it, going some place": to drink beer in cheap hotels, to amusement parks, to dances, to the country in dilapidated Fords, to heavy dates, anywhere they can create the illusion of a rousing time. "This has got the time in it," says Mike, one of the swaggering heroes, as he hugs his bottle to him, "and now we've got the time in us. Plenty of time for everything, baseball, science, and the art of drinking. Plenty." Mr. Riordan is perhaps too much the reporter, but his book has vigor and originality.

THE HOUSE OF GOLD.
By Liam O'Flaherty. *Harcourt, Brace & Company*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 348 pp. *New York*

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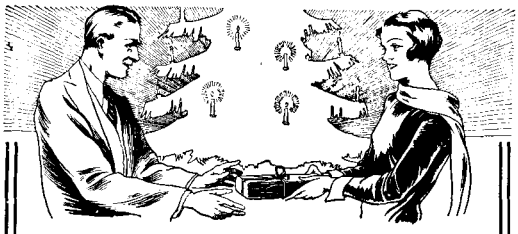

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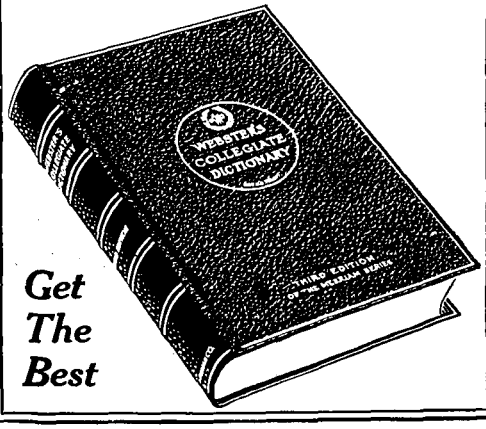

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jeopardizes his home. The priest kills Nora by hurling her over a dark cliff, O'Neill goes mad, Costello kills the priest, and then dies horribly from an apoplectic stroke. A chaotic and somewhat slushy tale.

SKETCH OF A SINNER.
By Frank Swinnerton. *Doubleday, Doran & Company*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 319 pp. *Garden City, L. I.*

Lydia Rowe, still under thirty, who has "everything in her carriage except buoyancy" and "everything in her face except beauty," is married to Sebastian, an antique dealer who keeps a shop in a ratty part of London. Lydia loves him much as she would love a child, and he shrewdly understands her. "Damn it," he exclaims, "I wish you'd get some friends!" Yet he cannot reconcile himself to her interest in Ambrose, a young poet who wins her ready sympathy, or to Gerald, with his perfect clothes and pleasant shoulders, whom she first sees in a restaurant. Ambrose dies quietly, leaving Lydia his pitiful £200 a year, and before she can run away with Gerald he is killed by an automobile after thrusting her out of danger. Dazed, she returns to the shop and Sebastian, to find him hopelessly paralyzed. An unconvincing story, in which one tragedy is piled upon another. Lydia alone has the breath of reality, and even so her relations with her three lovers are at once arbitrary and vaporous.

RELATIVES.
By Russell Neale. *Harper & Brothers*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 284 pp. *New York*

Mr. Neale here presents a forbidding group of Pennsylvania peasants: Jake Pall, of Baker's Landing, with his bald pate and black prosperous beard, who wants a dozen girls but must content himself with a pet canary; his ailing pious wife Susie and their ineffectual son John, who dreams of playing the violin and marrying his rapacious cousin Mary; Otto, Jake's brother, who is so stingy, his nephew tells him, that "when you die you'll pretty near be afraid to go to Heaven for fear of leaving some of your smell in the grave"; Old Ida, the vindictive grandmother, as bent as a rusty nail and with the look of a she-goblin, who, according to Jake, hasn't bathed in twenty years; Oscar, her favorite grandson, an imbecile with dull blue eyes who wears a straw hat Winter and Summer; Adam Tippery—Uncle Adam—who was a professor of violin and piano before he lost his sight, and who sits all day in his stained clothes, dreaming of his nephew's career; and Herman Float, the butcher's son, whom the grasping Mary marries—"he can saw meat," John declares, "but he isn't worth a damn." Their endless wranglings and vituperations and obscenities are

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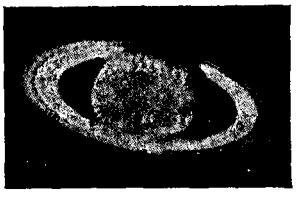

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somehow entertaining. Mr. Neale hates his characters with an overwhelming energy, but he draws them with humor as well as with savage realism.

THE MAN WITHIN.
By Graham Greene. *Doubleday, Doran & Company*
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The story here moves with swiftness from the betrayal of a smuggler crew by young Francis Andrews, one of its number, to the fight between the smugglers and the revenue officers, their trial, with Andrews on the witness stand, his betrayal of Elizabeth, the girl who has sheltered him, his return to Elizabeth, her tragic death, and his surrender to the officers. Yet, it is not the plot, skilfully handled as it is, but young Andrews' subjective battle to overcome his cowardice that lifts the story above the ordinary. Mr. Greene is heralded as a cousin twice-removed from Robert Louis Stevenson, but his very compact and moving novel stands on its own merits.

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By Thomas Wolfe. *Charles Scribner's Sons*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 626 pp. *New York*

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LOVE STORY.
By Thelma Woodhill. *Simon & Schuster*
$2.50 7 x 4¾; 352 pp. *New York*

Martha Barnet, a Victorian matriarch, disappointed in her material circumstances early in her marriage, keeps her husband Henry at a distance, "but her nature is too powerful to be dammed into a motion-

Continued on page xlvi

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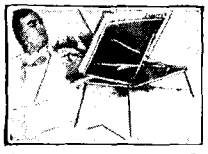

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$2.50 7½ x 5; 289 pp. *Garden City, L. I.*

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A DINNER OF HERBS.
By Marjorie Bartholomew Paradis.
The Century Company
$2 7¾ x 5; 386 pp. *New York*

This is the feeble story of a trial marriage, with only an occasional vivid flash of Daphne, the youthful Portia who perpetrates the scheme upon her trial husband, to recommend it.

SCHLUMP. *The Story of a German Soldier.*
By Himself. *Harcourt, Brace & Company*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 299 pp. *New York*

ZERO HOUR.
By George Grabenhorst. *Little, Brown & Company*
$2.50 7½ x 5; 306 pp. *Boston*

CLASS OF 1902.
By Ernst Glaeser. *The Viking Press*
$2.50 7½ x 4⅞; 397 pp. *New York*

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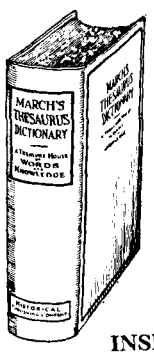

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excessive to say that they are as brilliantly vivid and impressive; nevertheless, they all have considerable merits of their own. Of the three, "Schlump" is most like the Remarque book. It tells the story of a common soldier on the Western front, and is full of dramatic episodes and sardonic humors. The author remains anonymous. "Zero Hour" is the story of a soldier higher in the social scale. The author, Dr. Grabenhorst, was severely injured on the Western front and came near losing his sight. He is now one of the editors of the *Hanoverischer Kurier* and has printed several other books. "Class of 1902" deals with the German boys who were too young to go to the war. It describes their lives in school during the war days and is full of mordant pictures of the Germany behind the ring of steel. All three volumes are adequately translated. The version of "Class of 1902" is by Willa and Edwin Muir and that of "Schlump" is by Maurice Samuel. The translator of "Zero Hour" is not given.

MISCELLANEOUS

THE MALE APPROACH.
By Heinrich F. Wolf. *Covici-Friede*
$3 8⅛ x 5½; 200 pp. *New York*

Despite a high-sounding preface by Dr. Alfred Adler, the rival of Freud, there is little in this book that is new. Dr. Wolf carries on part of his exposition of the masculine technique in amour by the case method, but not many of his cases are interesting, and very few of them throw any new light upon the subject. It is somewhat astonishing, indeed, that so serious a book—Dr. Adler speaks of its "scientific impartiality and ethical earnestness"—should be so feeble. The author is an Austrian now living in New York, where he is in practise as a physician.

THE MANSIONS OF PHILOSOPHY.
By Will Durant. *Simon & Schuster*
$5 9⅜ x 6⅛; 704 pp. *New York*

This volume is made up of many papers, written originally for different magazines, but a common purpose runs through all of them, and so they hang together very well. What Dr. Durant undertakes is no less ambitious an enterprise than a survey of the whole field of philosophy, always in the light of the needs of modern man. The old philosophies, he says, are dead, and the race has so far neglected to make a new one, but soon or late it must be put together, and to the end that it may be adequate it must be well-informed. Thus only may we hope to "replace with conscious guidance the ancestral readiness and simplicity of impulse and wonted ways." Everything must be thought out, without prejudice and in the light of the best knowledge that we can muster, "from the artificial formula with which we feed our children, and

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the calories and vitamins of our muddled dietitians, to the bewildered efforts of a revolutionary government to direct and coördinate all the haphazard processes of trade." Dr. Durant ranges the whole field, from metaphysics to ethics, and from æsthetics to logic. His writing, as in "The Story of Philosophy," is always simple and clear, and despite the huge bulk of his book he manages to make it interesting throughout. There is a bibliography at the end, along with a good index.

A CONRAD MEMORIAL LIBRARY.
The Collection of George T. Keating.
Doubleday, Doran & Company
$25. 10 x 7⅜; 450 pp. *Garden City, L. I.*

Mr. Keating, a New York business man, was one of the earliest readers and collectors of Conrad's books, and long before they had made much noise in the world he was in personal contact with the author. Out of that contact arose a friendship which lasted until Conrad's death. Some of its fruits are exhibited in this sumptuous bibliography. It includes not only a complete set of the Conrad first editions, but also a great many association items of the first value—autograph inscriptions, manuscripts, corrected proof sheets, and private letters. Mr. Keating, with pardonable pride, displays them at length, and with them he offers an interesting and valuable commentary, part of it from his own hand and part done by other Conradians. Among the latter are H. M. Tomlinson, Sir Hugh Clifford, Edward Garnett, William McFee, John Galsworthy, Capt. David W. Bone, G. Jean-Aubry and Mrs. Conrad. The work is of unique and extraordinary interest. Moreover, it is a collector's item of some worth on its own account, for it is beautifully printed and bound. The edition is limited to 501 copies, of which 425 are for sale. The book was designed by W. A. Kittredge.

A ROOM OF ONE'S OWN.
By Virginia Woolf. *Harcourt, Brace & Company*
$2 7½ x 5; 199 pp. *New York*

Mrs. Woolf's thesis here is simple enough and very persuasive, to wit, that any woman who hopes for success in the arts ought to have a room of her own and £500 a year—in other words, decent privacy and a decent maintenance. In the past, she says, very few women have had either. They could not live alone without risking social disaster, and it was seldom possible for them to accumulate enough capital to be really independent. Shakespeare's sister, had she had his genius, would have been a complete failure, for London would have laughed at her and going there would have made her a pariah at home. But now things are different, and so Mrs. Woolf looks for better and better work by women hereafter. In many

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Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared Samuel Knopf, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the Business Manager of THE AMERICAN MERCURY and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management, etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 443, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

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ways they have better minds than men, and a really first-rate man always has a palpable touch of woman in him. All this is quite true, and it deserved to be said, but Mrs. Woolf has damaged the saying of it by using far too many words. Her pedestrian, circumlocutory style tends to be wearisome, and often she spoils a good point by burying it in irrelevancies. In her novels her style passes muster, and is even greatly admired, but subjected to the hard test of argumentation it turns out to be full of deficiencies.

OLD PATCHWORK QUILTS *and the Women Who Made Them.*
By Ruth E. Finley. *The J. B. Lippincott Company*
$5 8⅝ x 5¾; 202 pp. *Philadelphia*

Miss Finley says that not many of the quilts now seen in American collections go beyond 1830, and that quilts of the Revolutionary era "hardly exist." When the art of making them arose is not known precisely, but it was flourishing in the Colonies by 1750, and it continued to be practised assiduously until 1870. To this day, indeed, it survives in various backwaters, but its noblest days were probably about 1840. Miss Finley describes in detail the way in which the old-time quilts were made, with diagrams. She also presents drawings of all the patterns in common use, and a great many full-page plates of complete quilts. She also has chapters on the materials used. Her book is the first adequate treatise on the subject and is admirably comprehensive.

THE GOLDEN OCTOPUS. *Legends of the South Seas.*
By Viscount Hastings. *E. P. Dutton & Company*
$6 10 x 7⅜; 92 pp. *New York*

The ten legends here all come from Moorea, a small island twelve miles from Tahiti, and thus belong to the Society Islands branch of Polynesian folklore. They deal with animals, with the mythical history of the islands, and with the feats of Maharu, the Polynesian Paul Bunyan. Viscount Hastings has not set them down literally, but has put them into graceful, and, at times, somewhat over-refined English. There are twelve illustrations in full color by Blamire Young, an Australian artist, who also contributes a brief preface. The edition of the book is limited to 1040 copies, of which 1000 are for sale.

A HISTORY OF MODERN TIMES. *From 1789 to the Present Time.*
By D. M. Ketelbey. *The Thomas Y. Crowell Company*
$3.75 8⅜ x 5½; 623 pp. *New York*

Mr. Ketelbey is concerned almost wholly with political history. His book is admirably arranged, and he had got all the salient facts into it. He writes well, and his general attitude is an intelligent one. His discussion of the United States, to which he devotes not quite a hundred pages, is good. There are many maps and a brief bibliography.

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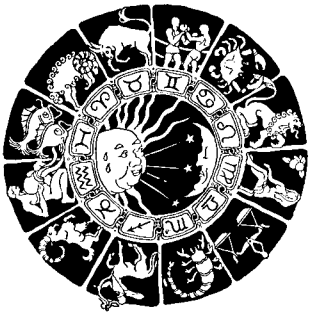

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THE SECRETARIAT

BY A WASHINGTON CORRESPONDENT

It was to be expected that the appearance in the White House of a Big Executive should see an accompanying enlargement of office quarters, expansion of equipment and massing of secretarial help. In bygone days the President had *a* secretary. Good, bad or indifferent, but only one. But that was before the era of the Super-Administrator, before Efficiency came to the White House. Now there is a whole machine-gun squad to handle the work.

In the past the presidential publicity was a matter between the President and his satellites of the press. Today, the satellites are still to be found, as numerous and as eager as ever, but the business is dealt with differently. A secretary chosen from among their own number is now detailed for the daily guidance of the correspondents in the mazes of presidential statecraft. And so in other fields. In former times, if the White House wanted to get the goods on a pesky foe or questionable friend, it was necessary to resort to outside assistance, sometimes even to the Department of Justice, as the Harding gang resorted in its attempt to get rid of Senator Wheeler. Not so, however, under the Super-Administrator. He has his own private sleuth, and has had him for many years. Indeed, it is said on good authority about the White House that not even the other three secretaries are exempt from the supervision of their fellow servitor, and that their knowledge of it adds no love to the relations between them.

Again, where of yore a loyal and deserving ward-heeler seeking governmental honors would lay his case before the Great White Father in person, all that sort of thing is accomplished today through a secretary whose whole time is devoted to such high matters. Finally, there is the business of the presidential prose. Several previous Presidents, and particularly the last two, had recourse to the convenience of literary assistants, but they did so surreptitiously. Thus the amiable Judson C. Welliver labored long and zealously for the late Gamaliel, but he drew down no Congressman's pay-check and no such honor as secretarial rank was accorded him. With the Big Executive it is different. The former editor of a moral magazine is publicly accredited to this weighty task, and remunerated out of the public treasury at the rate of $10,000 a year.

This crew of four, of course, does not by any means exhaust the secretarial personnel of the White House. Mrs. Hoover, busy with the onerous duties of a President's wife, has at least three of her own, all women, and to the executive office group there must be added many laborious understrappers, and at least one more star. This is the Hon. James Francis Burke,

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officially general counsel of the National Republican Committee, and recently—in recognition, apparently, of his genius in inspiring Mabel Walker Willebrandt (according to the account) to make her famous harangue to the Ohio Methodists—elevated by the committee to its inner circle of potentates. The Hon. Mr. Burke ensconced himself in the executive offices when the new administration came in, and has been busy ever since at weighty matters of party import. He is a Catholic, and so apparently are his ideas of what is good practice in a presidential compaign. He has assured the White House newspaper men that he is giving his services to the President without any pay or desire for reward, but solely out of love and reverence. That altruistic devotion seems to bring him luck, for he dresses in the height of fashion, lives in an expensive suite in in one of the Capital's most fashionable hotels, and lolls about town in a luxurious car driven by a liveried chauffeur. He is a little man, and given to wing collars and double-breasted coats. On the outer rim of the dangerous age, he nevertheless affects a boulevardier atmosphere, English model shoes, a walking stick, and slick-backed hair.

Mr. Hoover and all these secretaries were in the White House only a few weeks before the enlargement and enhancing of the executive offices got under way. This work continued throughout the Summer and Autumn and is only now being completed. New offices have been added, old ones have been made larger and more handsome, and the vestibule has been recreated on the model of a hôtel lobby. The promptness with which the work was begun indicates that it was planned long before the newcomers took up their residence in the place. The basement, which, since the building of the office wing, had been used only as a storeroom, has been converted into offices and the whole layout of the place has been rearranged. The White House telegraph operators, who for many years were located in an anteroom off the executive secretary's office, are now downstairs. There also are to be found the executive files, mailing rooms and mimeographing apparatus, and all the other complicated appurtenances of a Big Executive's business machinery.

Room for the new lobby, with its white columns, thick carpets and large lounges, was obtained by doing away with several large but miserably furnished and little-used offices. One at the head of the old vestibule has been incorporated in the lobby and another on the right has been turned into a ritzy loge for the press. Its walls of amber tint are hung with autographed likenesses of Harding, Coolidge, J. Bascom Slemp and other departed immortals. A rich yellowish carpet and new typewriter desks help to dress the room, but the boys are not especially happy in it. It's all too fancy. There are goboons and waist-high ash trays all about, but who wants to get up from a card game to make sure that he doesn't miss the receptacle, and how can you sprawl your feet on a shiny new desk-top?

However, it is quite an improvement for the reporters. In the old days they were crowded into a little hole on the other side of the corridor, where at the most only one card game could be in progress at a time, and even then the players had to move their chairs whenever a press association man came in to use one of the booth telephones. In the new room there is plenty of space for a couple of card games and several chess or checker games at the same time, and no one has to move to allow passage to the telephones.

The lobby, besides being much more commodious than the old vestibule, serves by its stateliness to impress the hundreds of tourists that pour in the year round seeking tickets for a peek at the inside of the White House. Without such tickets only the lower corridor and the East Room may be visited, but with them a glimpse may be had of several of the first floor rooms, the Red, the Green and one or two others. At the side of the old vestibule,

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where the reporters' niche used to be, two well-appointed secretarial offices have been built. Away from the general suite of offices but still in the office wing a small room has been fixed up for the gang of camera-men who are always on duty at the White House. The haughty writing men will have nothing to do with photographers, and this caste feeling is duly recognized by the well-informed secretariat.

II

The Hon. George Akerson, A.B., a two-hundred-pound Norwegian, is foremost in the public eye as a presidential secretary. He sits in the main office and so far as the general public is concerned holds down the post that in the past the solitary presidential secretary used to occupy. George's office was not affected by the general remodeling. But while he drinks deeply of the consciousness that he occupies the traditional secretarial chamber, he is, after all, only *one* of the present staff of secretaries, and any claim he may make as to preëminence among them is fiercely, if covertly, controverted by at least two of the others. To George is assigned the task of making contact with the press and handling Mr. Hoover's public engagements. The Hon. Walter H. Newton, LL.B., a one-time representative from Minnesota, takes care of patronage, is the congressional tie-up, and pries around in departmental affairs. The Hon. E. French Strother, former editor of the *World's Work* and author of "Fighting Germany's Spies," is the *littérateur*. And the Hon. Lawrence Richey, Mr. Akerson's chief rival for the favor of the Chief, is the official snooper. There have been newspaper men and politicians as presidential secretaries before, but never a sleuth.

Each of this quartette has a separate field of activity, but inevitably there is some overlapping, and, all of them being ambitious men, considerable friction is current among them. This is particularly true of Messrs. Akerson and Richey. The rivalry between them dates back to the time when both served Mr. Hoover when he was Secretary of Commerce. George has never completely satisfied himself that he is the one-in-all to the Chief, and the uncertainty has always bothered him. He is the Hoover megaphone and sounding-board, of that there is no doubt, but he knows, and so does official Washington, that it is Mr. Richey who is the President's confidential man and has been so for many years. Furthermore, Mr. Richey proposes to continue so, and being much cannier and cleverer than George, he will doubtless succeed.

Of course, on the surface, and that goes too for Mr. Hoover, everything is jake among the four. But only on the surface. Under cover there is tugging and hauling between them. Officially no one is the superior, but the Hon. Mr. Newton, as a former Congressman, can't help viewing the others as of lesser rank, and Mr. Richey, as Mr. Hoover's one really confidential agent, knows that he is the most intimate with him. Meanwhile Mr. Akerson naturally regards his press and political services as of the highest importance, and Mr. Strother, from the lofty eminence of his literary talent, looks down upon them all.

The exact standing, importance and authority of each of the rivals offer never-ending perplexities to the politicians who swarm about the White House. They are constantly inquiring about this one or that and his degree of importance. With only one secretary on the job it used to be a relatively simple matter to make contact with the President. But surrounded as he is now by this elaborate cordon the boys are at loss as to which one to shine up to. If they go to Mr. Akerson they are apt to find that they should have taken the matter up with Mr. Newton or Mr. Richey, and when they finally get to the right one they are uncertain how he will take their previous mistake. Precedence, as everyone knows, is no light matter in Washington. Even worse, if they are after something that none of the secretaries wants to tackle, the

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secretaries pass the petitioner back and forth among themselves, each saying it is within some other secretary's province. All this is hard on the politicians, but it gives the Super-Administrator himself a great out.

Because of its numbers and importance the secretariat has come to be of as much interest to the visiting politicians and delegations as the Washington monument or the Internal Revenue Bureau. The newspapers write it up and each member has been the subject of numerous magazine memoirs and Sunday feature articles, detailing the romance and moral of his career. This is particularly true of Mr. Richey, who, though he has been with Mr. Hoover for many years, was practically unknown until he came to the White House.

To the sagacious Mr. Akerson is accredited much of Mr. Hoover's pre-convention strategy. Certainly he is fast on his publicity feet. In all Washington there is no more accomplished artist at breaking or taking the edge off a story. It is not often he misses. He is the originator of the twice-daily press conference, to which the reporters come with their queries about postmasterships and other local items. This idea of seeing the reporters daily is plainly the invention of one who knows his Washington correspondents thoroughly.

In offering them the chance to palaver daily with a presidential contact, Mr. Akerson saw that not only could a very important influence be thrown upon the copy they produced but that the conference could be used as a screen behind which activities could be carried on which might otherwise be ferreted out—that is, if the reporters were not lulled into security. Mr. Akerson, himself for years one of the most accomplished of Washington correspondents, appreciated fully the average reporter's disinclination to root into things if he can possibly avoid doing so. He knew that if the average man of the corps could feel that he was "protected" he would usually take what was given him.

So he installed his twice-daily meetings with the boys and great, in consequence, has been the success of the White House in dealing with the press. Unluckily, certain of the more independent and restless of the boys soon grasped the fact that he passed out only what the White House wanted known, and that much remained to be turned up by accident long afterward. One day, for instance, it was discovered that important persons were being called to the White House, and weighty conferences held, some during the day and others at night, about which Mr. Akerson had given no inkling. But questioned about such matters, he always has a ready explanation. Either he knows nothing about them or he gives assurance that they are unimportant.

It is in the planting of a story that Mr. Akerson really excels. He is perfectly at home in the game and knows all the ropes. Thus, when the Senate, in the face of presidential denunciation, approved for a second time the debenture plan, he outmaneuvered the recalcitrant chamber for the headlines the next morning by releasing late the same evening several letters that had come to the President, apparently fortuitously, from the Secretary of the Treasury and the Secretary of Agriculture, giving their expert opinions on the dangers of the proposition. The press of the land, being overwhelmingly Republican, gave the presidential communication the big play—at the expense, alas, of the far more significant news that the Senate, despite a heavy Republican majority and only a few months after the new Republican President had come into office, had for a second time in a few weeks voted no confidence. Under the Continental form of government such a vote would have meant the fall of the administration; but under our system Mr. Hoover was easily made out to be the hero of the occasion.

Another time a man named Coolidge, once President himself, came to Washington and held forth among his old friends, the reporters. The story was all about his zealous efforts for peace, and it was all set

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for the top lines the next morning. But George very neatly nicked it by producing a statement from the President that the Army was to be directed to investigate how it could reduce its costs—an idealistic assignment, if there ever was one! Mr. Coolidge, much to his surprise and disgust, went into the inside pages.

III

But if he excels in this line George does not do quite so well in several other respects. He is, by God's will, a jovial, expansive fellow who finds it hard to say no. As a result he sometimes promises rather more than he can fulfil. It is really not his fault. That is exactly what Mr. Hoover has him there for. But to the victims that is small consolation, with the result that George is often accused of a double-dealing for which he is only indirectly responsible. At the Williamstown Institute last Summer it was widely related that he was to blame for a "cordon of duplicity" that was alleged to surround the White House. That was not altogether fair to him. He is undoubtedly the visible evidence of the cordon, but like the Marines in Haiti, he is merely doing the best he can in a not very salubrious job.

It is George too who has the keen eye for the camera. Although a reporter by experience and training, he has also been a managing editor and so knows the worth of pictures. He appreciates thoroughly the tabloid axiom that a good picture is worth a page of print. So he has assiduously cultivated the photographers, whether of stills, movies or talkies, and much to the pain of the writing corps he sees to it that the camera toters are always taken care of and fully represented. When the plan for the remodeling of the executive offices was being laid out he made sure that they should have a lounging room of their own. Heretofore they had hung around on the public chairs in the vestibule, with their cameras dumped anywhere. Now they have a cozy nook wherein they may play poker and swap yarns without cramping. In fact, so warm are Mr. Akerson's relations with the picture group, and especially with the movie men, that it is generally predicted that he will eventually wind up in some expensive executive berth with them.

It is his great vanity that now and then, when he is accompanying Mr. Hoover on a junket, some backwoodsman will address him as Mr. President. He is as bulky as Mr. Hoover and has the same full round head, neck and shoulder formation, and either consciously or otherwise he affects the same style of attire. A Norwegian from Minnesota, he was graduated from Harvard and went into the newspaper game on the staff of the patriotic Minneapolis *Tribune*. He wrote State politics and eventually became managing editor. While still in Minnesota he participated in the Hon. Nervous Nelly Kellogg's heroic attack upon the Nonpartisan League and the Farmer-Labor Party. The Insurgents, unfortunately, were able to get at Kellogg and retired him from the Senate. But, George, in recognition of his great services to the holy cause, was sent to Washington as his paper's correspondent.

In the capital he soon became one of the most popular of the boys. He was elected to the Gridiron Club, and became an adept at blacksheeting, which is to say, at the gentle art of swapping stories, so extensively practiced by the big shots of the corps of correspondents. All the time he kept his eyes open for the Big Chance. His friends credit him with seeing Mr. Hoover's presidential possibilities far back in 1920, despite his dismal showing in that year, and with setting out to sell Mr. Hoover the idea of running again, with himself as the man to manage the job. At any rate, after a few years he left his press labors to accept a job as the representative of the Department of Commerce, of which Mr. Hoover was then Secretary, at the Philadelphia Centennial. While that affair was a dud George's work evidently impressed Mr. Hoover, for when his personal secretary left him to go back to the newspaper business he offered Mr. Akerson the job. Thus

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situated, George wasted no time in organizing Mr. Hoover's nomination campaign, should a break give them the chance to swing into action.

When it did come through Mr. Coolidge's over-reaching himself in his famous "I do not choose to run" announcement he was all ready. He and the Chief were camping at the moment at the famous redwood rendezvous of the Bohemian Club of San Francisco. A long-distance telephone message from some watchful friend among the press gang informed them of the development. In half an hour there was assembled about them a group of pantingly-eager Golden State millionaires, each offering his all to finance the dash for glory.

When Mr. Akerson became Mr. Hoover's secretary in the Department of Commerce he organized among the illuminati representing strategic newspapers an advisory informal group who became the official press friends of the Chief. They brought inside political information, formulated plans, laid out maneuvers, and, most important of all, devised and put over extremely effective publicity. George also saw to it that Mr. Hoover met the lesser reporters and that they were taken care of. The hospitality of the Hoover home was judiciously made available, and they and their wives basked in the power and glory thereof. Meanwhile, the press division of the Department of Commerce was speeded up, with the result that enormous floods of publicity were always pouring forth.

It was all craftily done. Department stories were credited to the bureau chiefs and division executives, but always the subtle thought was hammered home that Mr. Hoover was the Secretary. Always the humanitarian angle was stressed. Nature helped mightily and opportunely. Indeed, it was once irreverently observed by a good Republican leader in the Senate, that the great Mississippi inundation in 1927 ruined the South but elected Mr. Hoover President. Certainly the publicity he gained from his work as head of the flood-relief helped his candidacy mightily. Mr. Coolidge in an unguarded moment had made him head of the organization, and Mr. Akerson did the rest. He organized a survey trip through the flooded area, and accompanied by a large corps of photographers and reporters, he and the Chief floated down the river amid a fanfare of publicity. Later, when envious politicians and presidential aspirants in the Senate tried to put Mr. Hoover in a hole by calling him before a committee for an expression of his views on flood prevention plans he adroitly wormed out of it by resorting to his favorite device: proposing a commission to investigate the subject.

George is declared to have been the brains of Mr. Hoover's pre-convention political strategy. Throughout the presidential campaign and since in the White House he has constantly steered him. Yet it is significant of the character of both men that he is not as close to Mr. Hoover as the sleuth Richey, and that, as much as his job means to him in pride and opportunities, he does not feel quite secure in it. Not, of course, that he is apprehensive about getting another. He would have no trouble doing that. But pride of high place, as to the majority of the Washington press corps, means everything to him. After all, it is not every Norsky farm-boy who becomes a presidential secretary, even one of four, and rides about in a White House car. And the machine assigned to George's use is as big and shiny and sleek as any of the White House fleet. He has, in fact, a weakness for automobiles. Before he came into the distinction of using a White House car he liked to roll up to the houses of his friends in a taxi and keep it waiting for hours while he prolonged his call.

IV

The Hon. Mr. Strother is technically a ghost and as such is pretty much in the background. Not being politically ambitious, as is Mr. Newton, or jealous of place, as are Messrs. Richey and Akerson, he keeps largely to himself and his work. He

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is used for fixing up punctuation, righting grammar, and preparing data. Minor statements and formal documents are turned over to him. Mr. Hoover writes his own speeches, but has always been a poor hand at prose. Mrs. Hoover used to help him; now Mr. Strother takes care of it. Judson C. Welliver actually wrote Mr. Harding's speeches for him, as well as other statements, and he did this for Mr. Coolidge too as long as he stayed with him. But neither he nor his successor was paid as well as Mr. Strother nor were they officially designated for such duties.

Mr. Strother is a Missourian, and of quiet, pleasant manner. He is tall and slender, and while well groomed, is not as dapperly arrayed as the Romish Mr. Burke. Until the new offices were installed he had a cubby-hole in the back of the office-wing, looking out upon the new California garden that Mrs. Hoover has had laid out on the south lawn. In his present office he maintains the atmosphere of a prosperous publishing sanctorum. He has had some newspaper experience, but most of his writing and editing has been for the more patriotic magazines.

The Hon. Mr. Newton is another link in the Hoover system of pipe-lines everywhere. Through his contacts in Congress Mr. Hoover gets confidential information on what is going on behind the scenes on the Hill. He also uses Mr. Newton to examine the activities of the various independent commissions and boards and to keep a check on the departments. But most important of all, Mr. Newton and the altruistic Mr. Burke handle patronage. They are both well chosen for this work. Mr. Newton is the perfect type of Farm Belt politician. He talks much about the need of Farm Relief and yet when he was in the House he voted for the Hawley tariff bill, one of the most bold-faced steals ever attempted on the farmer, and against the debenture plan, a device which would have applied the tariff principle to agricultural exports.

Mr. Newton is of the big lumbering type, careless of dress but a smooth talker and a clever politician. Whether for political effect or because of personal indifference, his clothes are always in need of pressing and his shoes of a shine. He wears his hair rather long, and somehow he appears out of place in so sleek an establishment as the executive offices. He has a large mouth, a characteristic of the political rhetorician. On the stump he is a loud-voiced rapid-fire orator. As a member of the House he was a regular of the regulars, although forever insisting upon the farmer's "rights." He is a lawyer by profession and went up the Minnesota escalator to a seat in the House.

He has senatorial ambitions, which is said to explain why he resigned and joined the White House secretariat. Unless that is the explanation, it is difficult to make out why he should have given up his seat. There is no more money in his present job —if anything, less. Also, he certainly could not have been unaware of the fact that numerous friends and help-meets of the Chief—among them, Col. Wild Bill Donovan, Doctor Work, Mrs. Willebrandt, and Col. Horace Mann, all got the gate without compunction when they had served their purposes, although to be sure each got also a nice letter full of gratitude and commendation. If he had any idea that he would be the senior among the secretaries that hope by now is well dissipated. The others are far too ambitious and self-seeking to give him any such edge.

Whatever the cause, Mr. Newton is not the chipper, gay fellow he used to be as floor leader on the Hill, and not one-tenth as much sought after by the reporters. He certainly must have some good-sized doubts by now as to the assistance he can look for from Mr. Hoover in pushing his senatorial ambitions. The Chief does not work that way. No doubt he has no objection to Mr. Newton becoming a Republican Senator from Minnesota, but there is grave doubt that he will permit him to use his White House connection to further that aspiration.

Mr. Newton's senatorial yearnings are

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said to have cost Mr. Hoover a vote in the close fight in the Senate on the debenture plan. The Hon. Thomas David Schall, LL.B., the Republican Senator from Minnesota, is said to have cast his vote against Mr. Hoover on the issue because he came to the conclusion that the latter was backing Mr. Newton for the Senate against him, and helping his campaign by appointing him to the White House staff. Because of his past membership in the House, Mr. Newton gets along well enough there since becoming a presidential secretary, but the prima donna Senators do not take kindly to him. They go to Mr. Akerson when they want an audience with Mr. Hoover.

Mr. Newton early got on the Hoover band-wagon and during the presidential campaign had charge of the speakers' bureau of the Western headquarters. In 1924 he was a moving spirit in the Coolidge campaign and led the champion pole-sitter's crusade through the Farm Belt. Like the others of the secretariat he is in his early forties. Until the remodeling of the offices was put through he was stuck off in a corner of the big Cabinet room, just off the private office of the President. His new office is now in the extension made up of the old telegraph and reporters' rooms, next to that of Mr. Strother. His great worry is whether he made a wise move in leaving his place in the House. There he was one of the administration's spokesmen, and members, office-seekers and reporters sought him out. He stood out as a definite figure, whose utterances were daily reported in the home-town press and his goings and comings speculated upon. In the White House he bows to the irrevocable rule in force there, that nothing must be said or done to dim the aura of the Chief.

This is deep anguish to Mr. Newton, and the fact that he is only one of four, or five, adds no comfort to the situation. With Messrs. Akerson and Richey he preserves an outward semblance of harmony and goodwill, but it is said that he feels that he is being slighted and that his importance and influence are not being sufficiently recognized and appreciated. Whatever his reason for resigning his place in the House, he is coming to realize what he of all persons should have known, that a Congressman, no matter how unimportant, is politically more significant in Congress, on the hoof and with a vote, than dressed and canned outside of Congress, no matter how fancy and ornate the can.

V

Messrs. Akerson, Newton and Strother are all common enough types in the history of presidential secretaries, even though in the present instance they are present in unprecedented numbers, but a man of Mr. Richey's activities and background is distinctly a departure. That he should have a personal aide of this order tells more about Mr. Hoover as an individual than all his public papers put together. Mr. Richey is really far more than a secretary; he is Mr. Hoover's confidential agent, his gum-shoe man, the major domo of his private affairs, his go-between and policeman. Officially, his duties approximate those of an office manager, supervising correspondence, managing the clerical force, and taking care of supplies and equipment. But that position is chiefly one of convenience, for it affords him a vantage place from which he can and does maintain a constant and all-pervading scrutiny of the White House personnel, including the other three secretaries and the Secret Service men and other guards. He checks up on the press, does Mr. Hoover's under-cover errands, and his personal business.

Indefatigable, a trained and experienced investigator, unobtrusive as a fleeting shadow and as smooth, he undertakes to know everything and what he knows Mr. Hoover knows. No one in any way connected with the White House, it is said, is exempt from his surveillance. Even the reporters assigned there are under his eye.

He has been with Mr. Hoover in a confidential capacity throughout his public career in this country. In the Chief's days

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as Food Administrator during the war, through his Cabinet service, as a presidential nominee and now in the White House Mr. Richey has served him, always in the background. Despite these long years of service it is interesting to note that he was literally unknown, except to a few intimates of Mr. Hoover's, until he entered the White House as a secretary. Interest was then aroused in the mystery man and certain facts about him were gleaned—that he is part Italian and that his name was originally Ricci; that he began work as a Hawkshaw for the celebrated William J. Burns as a boy of thirteen; that at the age of sixteen he was a full-fledged Secret Service operative; that for some years thereafter he led an exciting life chasing counterfeiters and others of that sort up and down the land, often making arrests at the point of the gun; that for a few years he was attached to Mr. Roosevelt's Summer Secret Service staff; that he then went into the detective business on his own, and was investigator for *Everybody's Magazine* during its muck-raking heyday, doing the sleuthing for such writers as Harvey O'Higgins, C. P. Connolly, and Judge Ben B. Lindsey; that for a time he managed a gold mine out West and then once again reëntered the detective business and was doing investigational work for a large number of business and insurance concerns when he became associated with Mr. Hoover. Mark L. Requa, the California politician and intimate friend of Mr. Hoover, is credited with bringing the two together when the latter, then Food Administrator, expressed the need for a confidential snooper.

Much is made by the Hoover press claque of Mr. Richey's talents as a Sherlock Holmes, but the Secret Service men, whether from professional jealousy or from pique at his reported admonitions for their lapses, do not rate him so highly. All the current newspaper stories about his romantic career as a sleuth they laugh at. If he is so "hot," they inquire, why isn't he way up "among 'em"? But while these professional colleagues are skeptical, Mr. Richey apparently satisfies Mr. Hoover, and has done so for many years. According to the story told by William Hard of the first meeting of the two, they talked for fifteen minutes and knew they were made for each other.

"There has not been a minute since then now for twelve years," Hard wrote in the Washington *Star* shortly after Mr. Richey came to the White House, "that has not seen each in the total and unreserved trust of the other."

Bill ought to know. As a reporter on a Chicago paper he worked with Mr. Richey, and he and Mark Sullivan and several other eminent journalists now comprise Mr. Hoover's confidential Kitchen Cabinet. Throughout his nomination and presidential campaigns they were his most constant familiars, visiting him almost daily at his office in the Department of Commerce or at his home. They ran his publicity and advised him on all his political moves and pronouncements. They saw to it that proper interpretations of his aims were disseminated among the other reporters, and when, during the presidential campaign, he made one of his infrequent addresses they explained to the ribald and skeptical just what the Chief had in mind.

It has been a remunerative labor for them. Once poor Liberals (Hard was even Washington correspondent of the *Nation*), they now pour forth reams of newspaper stories and magazine articles eulogistically interpreting the mind and deeds of the Super-Administrator. This market is built on the assumption that they are close to him and know his inner workings. Sullivan accompanied him on his Latin-American tour and wrote columns of sweet stuff about it. He was also in Florida when Mr. Hoover went there before taking office, and the dispatches told of frequent breakfasts, dinners, and fishing trips with him. Both are frequent guests at the White House, and at the Rapidan, Va., camp—a distinction that has been granted to only one other press luminary, Roy Vernon, of the Chicago *Daily News*.

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At the camp they hobnob with the great and near-great, joyously do their bit at the encampment labor of dam building on the two-foot trout creek, and on their return read in the papers that they were among the President's week-end guests. This fact makes a powerful impression upon editors, who hasten to subscribe for their dispatches. They are officially registered in the press galleries as working newspaper men, but they are rarely seen at the scenes where news is astir. But at the White House conferences they are quite regular in attendance, Sullivan writing for the New York *Herald-Tribune* Syndicate and Hard putting out his stories through David Lawrence's press service. In their writings the opposition is always wrong and destructive and the President always wise and patriotic.

There are others of lesser prominence who are no less saccharine and admiring. But because they represent only one newspaper each the tie-up is more circumspect. An occasional personal chat with the Great Man or a dinner invitation to the White House serves to reward them sufficiently.

VI

Hard's story of Mr. Richey, as printed in the Washington *Star*, is the most informative account of him so far produced. Here is an extract:

> Lawrence Richey is, in a way, the mystery man of this administration. He is in the very core and marrow of Mr. Hoover's activities and has been for twelve years. . . . Mr. Richey has two outstanding qualities. One is that he is a dynamo. The other is that he is a well. Mr. Hoover comes along and tosses things into the well. He can then go away and forget them. He can forget them twice. He can forget them because he knows that the dynamo will attend to them, and he can forget them because he knows that there is no bucket in the world that can draw them up out of Larry Richey. It took Mr. Hoover fifteen minutes to know that Mr. Richey was the man that he wanted most closely, confidentially beside him in Washington. . . . Mr. Hoover has an exceptional gift for exciting loyalty. Larry has an exceptional gift for exhibiting it. . . . The fidelity between the two men is more than a fidelity. It is a mutual confidence in the search for what is sensible and what is right.

When Mr. Hoover was head of the Department of Commerce Mr. Richey continued his mysterious operations. Under the title of Assistant to Mr. Hoover he ranged over the department's multifarious divisions and bureau, keeping an eye on everybody and everything. Did a condition or an individual need "correcting," he did the job, neatly, quietly and with dispatch. No hint of scandal or trouble leaked out, and what changes occurred were always silently put through. The system had a powerful influence upon departmental affairs. No other department functioned so effectively and productively. This fact, of course, was never lost sight of in the flood of publicity that poured out from its press section.

But it was not only to departmental affairs that Mr. Richey turned his fine Italian hand. Did Mr. Hoover have a piece of legislation he wanted put through, Mr. Richey conferred with the right men on the Hill and things came to pass. Was there opposition, he called upon it and showed the erring statesmen wherein they were wrong. Particularly, he pointed out the desirability of having a great and powerful department in a friendly frame of mind toward requests from constituents. Mr. Hoover almost always got what he wanted from Congress—when he really wanted it. Often he merely grandstanded, as, for example, when he made his proposals for a reorganization of the demoralized coal mining industry. He had an excellent plan, but that was all he did about it. The fat boys in Pennsylvania, including the sainted Andy Mellon, Secretary of the Treasury, didn't want the government meddling in their coal business, and so, although the need for regulation of the industry was and still is notorious, nothing has ever been done about it.

With this background of dealings and experience with politicians, editors, police men, crooks and shysters in and out of Congress, bankers, judges, business men and governmental officials, it was natural that Mr. Richey should be of enormous

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worth to the Chief in his presidential campaign. As always, he was in the background. Mr. Hoover put him inside the Republican National Committee and kept him there. He is hardly to be blamed for it, what with the muddle-headed Dr. Work trying to run things and doing as bad a job as could be imagined. Mr. Richey didn't intrude upon the Doc—he is too smooth and astute a dick for that—but he kept his fingers on everything, and Mr. Hoover had a thorough knowledge of what was going on. This may explain why so many of the apparently faithful have since got the ax and retired to other fields of patriotic endeavor.

When Democratic interests started quiet inquiries into certain phases of Mr. Hoover's mining and business career abroad, they soon encountered Mr. Richey's trail just ahead of them. The same, it is said, occurred when an investigation was started into the English records pertaining to the charge that Mr. Hoover at one time considered abandoning his American citizenship for a British title. When it was falsely bruited about that Senator James A. Reed, whose dislike for Mr. Hoover is deep and fulsome, was preparing to take the stump during the campaign and give vent to his views of the Great Engineer, Mr. Richey, it is declared, prepared a comprehensive precautionary counter-blast dealing with Jim's whole past, including his early peccadilloes in Sunday-school. Such a job is precisely to Mr. Richey's taste and always calls out the best that is in him.

Unlike the other members of the secretariat, he is short. There is a trace of a limp in one foot. He is stocky, but of powerful build. He is reported to be of great physical courage. There is nothing particularly hard-boiled about him, but he has a cold, steady eye. He says little and when with Mr. Hoover he does not hover about him, as does Mr. Akerson. But he is always in the background. He is forceful both in manner and in conversation. He never lounges about or fraternizes with the newspaper men or visitors. If he has a caller the business between them is transacted and that closes the visit. The White House Secret Service men keep a wary eye on him. He watches them closely and is reported to have admonished them on several occasions.

According to those who pretend to know him, he likes the outdoors, not golf and such dalliances, but fishing, hiking, camping in the woods. This taste makes a strong bond between him and Mr. Hoover. None of the other secretaries goes in for that sort of thing. Mr. Strother, as a high-toned *littérateur*, is naturally bookish, and Messrs. Newton and Akerson have the traditional politician's dislike for physical exertion. Mr. Richey is always well groomed and wears his graying black hair brushed back in pompadour fashion. His office is on the other side of the lobby, away from those of the other secretaries, and is connected with that of the White House staff of stenographers.

In the White House as in the Department of Commerce Messrs. Richey and Akerson carry on their ancient feud. The odds, I suspect, are against George, not only because Mr. Richey is shrewder and has been much longer with Mr. Hoover, but above all because he is more of the Hoover kind of man than Mr. Akerson. George is willing enough, but he just hasn't got it in him. It's a gift. One has to be born with it. The Akersons, Strothers, Works, Donovans, Willebrandts and Manns may come and go, but there will always be a Richey with Mr. Hoover. The engineering mind, in its higher phases, sets great store by complete, precise and confidential information.

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EXPERIENCE

BY RUTH SUCKOW

ELIZABETH was in her room. She knew that "the folks" worried about her when she sat there alone. Once in a while her mother came to the door, usually on some pretext. "Dad and I are going to pick the berries. Don't you want to come out with us, Elizabeth?" She nearly always said no. She would rather be alone, living over, in sweet, wounding detail, now this and now that moment with Harold. But then she would get to thinking of them out there talking about her in low voices, how dad stepped carefully about the house with a solemn face, and mother's painful little efforts to be ordinary and cheerful; and she would have to go down.

Everything about "the folks" hurt her, too. Sometimes she went into their bedroom and looked at the wedding photograph on the wall. When she was a child, she used to ask wonderingly, "Was this you, Mama? Was this really Papa?" She didn't think it looked like them at all. And she was quite impressed.

Then later, that first Summer when she was at home from college, when Margie was visiting her, she took Margie in and they giggled together over the way dad's hair was curled, and the way they both stood there against a background of charcoal clouds. The *clothes!*

"Just look at mother's pishy knot!"

With eyes of horrified laughter, they counted all the little satin ruffles on mother's dress.

"Look how the skirt hikes up in the front, though! Women all wore corsets that stuck out in front. They didn't have garters fastened to them, or something. Look at that little curl over dad's left eyebrow! Isn't it sweet? Look at dad's ringlets!"

Mother heard them and met them just as they were escaping into the hall.

"What are you girls finding to amuse you so?"

They looked at each other—Margie a little scared—and giggled.

"I just wanted Marge to see how sweet you and dad looked when you got married."

"Oh, was that it?"

Mother laughed. She made fun of the picture, too. But she went on into the room and Elizabeth saw her standing in front of it with a half-smiling, remote expression, and then turn away.

How could she ever have thought of it like that? Now she stole in all by herself; and the look of those two young faces with the rounded cheeks and serious, innocent eyes hurt her so that her throat ached. They had been *young*. She thought of all that had happened to them since that picture was taken, and she didn't see how they could bear it. Their first baby had died. Elizabeth used to feel important saying to the other children, "I had a little sister that died before I was born." She felt very pleased when mother told her to gather flowers to decorate the little sister's grave on Memorial Day, because the family had a lot where she could put flowers; and then she remembered how she had come dashing into the house with her bouquet—"Look, Mama! Look what I've picked!"—and how through the open kitchen doorway she had seen mama with her head on papa's shoulder and papa kissing her.

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Why were they doing that? she had wondered.

She heard her mother now at the foot of the stairs.

"Elizabeth! Dad and I are going to drive out in the country and get a chicken. Won't you come along?"

She waited a moment, scarcely breathing. She couldn't bear to hurt them by refusing . . . but when she thought of the wedding picture she knew she couldn't stand the sight of their faces, to have to realize that they could get old and die.

"I guess not."

A pause.

"What are you doing, darling?"

"Just reading."

She waited, rigid, and heard them drive away.

She stole into the bedroom again and looked into the innocent eyes in the picture. How pretty they were—both of them! Yes, dad too, with those silly ringlets, and those nice dark eyes. It seemed terrible to her that they must lose their beauty.

She used to tease mother about buying that "complete beauty programme" from the woman with hennaed hair who was going around selling toilet articles. When she or Charles took snapshots, mother always tried to get out of them. "What do you want *me* in it for?" Charles and Elizabeth thought she was silly. But now it seemed to Elizabeth that she understood only too well how mother glanced at the mirror and quickly away.

She looked around the bedroom with its white curtains and its lowered shades. It used to be just "the folks' room" to her. Now it was breathing with strange half-secrets and open intimations all around her. She saw the big bed where she used to sleep with mother when she was ill. She saw the closet where they kept their clothes, and the worn, familiar intimacy of their toilet things on the dresser. Had they been happy here with each other, as she and Harold had been once? She seemed to feel piling upon her all their years and years of being together . . . until she realized all at once, all over again, with new blinding pain, what she had lost.

Oh, Harold, Harold! . . . she couldn't stand it. She ran into her own room, flung herself across the bed, cried and cried.

II

After an uncharted time, she lay still in that drained apathy after tears that she had come to know. She saw her own wrists flung lax on the counterpane. Now she could think about Harold again. She knew that her mother and father wished she wouldn't "brood"; but they did not understand the torturing consolation of going over and over her brief drama of happiness. She hadn't forgotten it, anyway, in this awful darkness that had followed. That would be the most terrible thing of all, if she began to forget. Then her heart would have to close.

Yes, but if she kept it open, to feel the happiness, then she would have to feel the rest, too. . . . She would have to feel again, like blows on her open heart, every cruel detail of Harold's suffering, and the awful blank fact of his death.

It couldn't be. That terrible struggling unbelief had to come all over her again. Something like that couldn't happen to them, to Harold and Elizabeth—not to *her*, to Elizabeth, whose life was always ringed about in a kind of sanctity of fortune. It couldn't be over so soon. Harold couldn't have died. It couldn't be true that she was here at home, submerged in the hot leafiness of mid-Summer, with nothing of that whole wonderful Spring but a few memories.

Lying drearily on her bed, she thought of her grandmother when she had lived in the big bedroom downstairs. Grandma used not to hear when Charles and Elizabeth spoke to her. Day after day, she used to sit there with nothing but her thoughts. Why was grandma so funny?—Charles and Elizabeth used to ask. Elizabeth understood it now. . . . Oh, but how could

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grandma have endured it to live on, after nearly everyone she cared for was gone? How could anybody endure things?

The world hurt too much. Now it even hurt her to see the roses fall. She couldn't bear to look at the rose-bush in front of the house because she knew how all the yellow petals were going to lie scattered. She didn't even want mother to plant her Fall flowers. She had seen things happen before, but she had been outside of them. It was that first morning after she and Harold had been together—it was then that she had come awake in her room at Mrs. Grover's to feel her heart wide open like the apple-blossoms outside the window. When she had walked to the schoolhouse with the other teachers, stopping to make little runs into yards as they passed to smell the fruit blossoms—"E-*liz*-abeth!" the girls were scandalized—she had felt as if she were suddenly a part of the whole blossoming world. In the schoolhouse all the windows were open and warm air was blowing through. On her shiny desk she had found a big bunch of tulips that an adoring child had brought her . . . and she remembered how, crowding them all lightly into her hands, she had looked deep down into the very centers where yellow pollen had shaken and powdered the bloom. . . .

Elizabeth got slowly off the bed. She sat on the floor beside the window and looked out into the heavy green of the leaves across the street.

A big brown dog came loping along. He stopped and sniffed at some paper on the street. A man came past, and the dog stopped, quivered, and gave a clumsy jump and a hopeful, eager, pitiful yelp. Elizabeth shrank back from the window. She knew that the dog was a stray. She knew how the man had given him a quick push down, without looking, and gone straight on. She knew . . . and yet she didn't take him. She crouched down and put her hands over her eyes. When she looked again, he was gone.

Now she almost wished that she had gone with mother and dad. She couldn't tell them why it was she hated to go anywhere. But it was not merely because she was "brooding." She had consented to go just once to a party. Mother said that if she didn't the girls would think it was because she had gone away to college. But she suffered so terribly all through the chatter that she thought she would have to say she was sick and come home. She felt as if Veronica Porter's birthmark were printed on her own cheek. She understood the nervous, high-keyed laughter of girls who were beginning to be afraid; and she knew what lay under Mae Garner's subtle, secret smile. When mother had entertained the Aid, it was just the same. Elizabeth passed the napkins and the cream and sugar; and then she had to run upstairs to hide from the marred faces of all those women . . . old Mrs. Kaster in from the country with her furtive glance of a dark little slave; big fat Mrs. Hittemiller with her worn hands spread on her billowing stomach; thin little white-haired Mrs. Ritchie with the starved brilliant eyes that gave away her life with that awful Mr. Ritchie . . .

There was a knock at the back door.

"You folks want any melons?"

"No. . . . Yes, I'll take one," Elizabeth said hastily.

She was ashamed as she hurried back upstairs for her pocketbook. Dad had bought some melons, and she knew these didn't look very good. But she couldn't stand the sight of that tottering old man with the two or three loose tusks in his open dribbling mouth rimmed around with old white stubble—not unless she at least took one of his melons. She shuddered. People could actually get to be that way. She saw him go out to his wagon. The heavy trees and the rich green lawn beyond the kitchen door seemed darkened to hold all the old things dying and sinking into them.

Elizabeth was afraid to look out of the window. She might see something like that dog again. Her Hardy book was lying face down on the dresser. But she was even

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afraid to read. It was as if she entered now into the very center of the long, difficult, solemn phrases and couldn't get away from the irresistible, inevitable wear of their bitter truth.

But she couldn't just sit here, either. She got up restlessly, washed, powdered, and went out of the house.

III

She went hastily down the front walk to get away from the sight of the house behind her. The broken laths in the lattice below the porch, the spreading look of the yellow rose-bushes that grandma had planted, the open door of the garage that used to be the old barn, made her realize how, slowly, the stability of the household was crumbling. Last Winter dad and mother had been alone.

She looked with a kind of horror at all the houses. An old couple lived in this place that she was passing. She had seen them, on these Summer evenings, sitting together on the narrow, sunken porch closed in with vines and plants that had an earthy odor. Soon, one or the other would be dead. Then the one left behind would live alone for a little while. There was a crippled man in this white house. Elizabeth was used to seeing him from the time she was a child, but she hadn't thought to ask dad or mother how it had happened. Now it was as if she could feel the distant shock of the sudden accident long ago and then the slow, maimed years and years of creeping through the richness of life and taking, a little here, a little there, whatever was left to him. . . .

She stopped. All at once she felt herself standing in the midst of the whole town. She felt it all around her . . . the streets under the Summer trees where cars flashed out of the driveways of the bright new houses where life was all happening now, flowers in bloom, and children's playthings scattered on the walks—and coming slowly after, an old horse patiently jogging to the end of its days; the business section where the stores lasted a while and then changed hands; the aging houses on the edge of town before you came to the cemetery dark with evergreens; fields and woods all about it blooming and fading with the seasons; and the little river that moved slowly to join a bigger river, flowing slowly to the Gulf, that finally met and merged with the sea.

What could people do? She could close her eyes and harden herself. Then she would forget—as mother told her—and after a while begin again. But if she really forgot, she would have to deny all the knowledge that opened up the depth of existence . . . and if she kept that, if she remembered, how could she wholly trust herself again? To stop feeling made everything useless. And yet, to see and feel like this would be annihilation. . . . She was being torn apart and scattered through all the pain there was. . . .

She turned blindly and escaped into a side street that ended in a pasture where a few big oak trees stood. There was a sense of staidness about the few white houses with old-fashioned flowers. The lawns were watered, perennials were planted, and the houses, when they faded, were painted the same white again.

This was the street where Miss Gurney lived. Elizabeth saw the plain white house with a sense of relief. She remembered how, when she was a little girl, and felt lonely—when she had quarreled with her chum, or got a poor mark in arithmetic—she used to go for consolation to see Miss Gurney.

She couldn't talk to mother. Mother cared for her too much. It hurt mother so to see her child unhappy that she would lie about the way the world was, and in the end could only plead, "Don't cry!" People who had never known were of no use, and she couldn't bear to look at those who had known too much. Miss Gurney's house held the only refuge.

Elizabeth moved through a neat pattern of shade to the clean white steps. The tinkle of the bell, faint but clear, marked

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time for a moment; and the quiet freshness of the lawn kept the shade and sunlight still.

There was a reassuring sense of custom in having Miss Gurney, just as always, open the door, and say in a tone pleased and yet not surprised:

"Why, Elizabeth!"

She liked to have her add, too:

"I'll have to take you into the kitchen. Do you mind? I'm baking a cake for the supper the ladies are giving."

"Oh, no. I always liked to be in your kitchen."

She could take a faint sense of melancholy pleasure in sitting down in the low, cane-seated chair where she always used to sit, and in looking around and seeing that the room looked just the same. There were six glasses of dark red jelly on the window-sill. It was even quieter than it used to be. Miss Gurney, large and fresh in her black and white apron, with her strong face framed in iron-gray hair, was briskly creaming the butter and sugar.

"Well, Elizabeth," she said, "I haven't seen you for a good while. What have you been doing with yourself this Summer?"

"Oh . . . nothing much."

Elizabeth herself flushed faintly at the concealing reticence of her tone. She had come wanting to talk to Miss Gurney; but there was something in this atmosphere of cheerful, sustained quiet, within which Miss Gurney's brisk activities were going on, that she dared not break. The white sash curtains shut her in with her untouched childhood; and she could only hear the dwindling rattle of a wagon outside in the street.

"Well," Miss Gurney said, "I expect you've been busy like the rest of us."

She did not know whether she was hurt or reassured by the friendly, acceptant lack of comprehension. No one but mother and dad knew what had happened to her. Even they didn't really know. There was a terrible shame in suffering, as if one were picked out from all the world. But she felt, as always, a consolation when she saw Miss Gurney's strong arms at work. People sent for Miss Gurney when something was wrong. She was kind and helpful, but she was brisk and cool; as if there were something in her not concerned; as if—Elizabeth thought, and the thought was like a cold breath coming over her—she could help other people with everything, because she had never started living for herself.

"Here, Elizabeth, you're pretty good at beating eggs, aren't you? Seems to me I remember you are."

"I'll try."

Elizabeth got up. The temporary relief of the small, brisk action helped her to mark time a little while longer with ordinary talk.

"What kind of cake is it going to be?"

"The regulation old kind. Chocolate frosting."

"Do they always make you bake cakes?"

"Always."

Elizabeth laughed. She clung to any intimation of the refuge of continuity.

"Yes, Elizabeth, if all the cakes I've baked for suppers in this town were put end to end, they'd reach into California and the frosting melt in the Pacific ocean. Wish they'd take me out there," Miss Gurney said.

"Do you really want to go?"

"Well, I've always had kind of a hankering to see it."

"I don't want you to," Elizabeth said, in a low, quick tone.

"Don't want me to?"

"No. I always want you to be in this house."

Miss Gurney flushed with pleasure that had a queer touch of girlish shyness. She laughed. But she said a little ruefully, as she opened the oven door and tested the heat:

"It's where I'm likely to be, I guess, Elizabeth."

Elizabeth surrendered her bowl of beaten eggs. Now, as she looked about the kitchen while she stood waiting, she saw even that in a different light. Yes, they were the

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same things, but it was as if she couldn't keep herself from realizing now where the things had come from. The low rocking-chair had been Miss Gurney's mother's. The clock with the octagonal face must have belonged to the old housekeeping days. A brown coat, that had been Miss Gurney's father's, hung on a nail beside the door. The evidences of the life of the household stood out now like visible marks and were not going to let her escape their significance.

"How are your father and mother?" Miss Gurney asked.

" All right, I guess."

"You guess?"

"Well, all right as far as I know."

"What's the matter with 'em?"

"Nothing." Elizabeth looked down. She wanted to keep her voice from shaking. "Only they look older to me this Summer. I never noticed it before."

"Well, Elizabeth, we all have to get older."

Elizabeth looked up in quick protest. She rebelled against, and yet envied, the cheerful acceptance of the tone. Was there nothing to do but accept and act cheerful? —she wanted to ask. Were you helpless under what life did to you?

Miss Gurney said suddenly:

"You knew father was gone?"

"No!"

"Yes, he died last Winter."

Elizabeth, startled, realized that there was a different quietness in the house. Then this was what it meant! There were no little grunting moans and shifting sounds from the bedroom where for years old Mr. Gurney, injured by a fall, had sat in his big rocker beside the window. Indeed, it seemed to Elizabeth that he had always sat there.

"Yes," Miss Gurney repeated soberly, "father died last Winter, sitting in his chair, just fifteen years to the day since mother passed away. It doesn't seem as if they could both be gone."

And then more cheerfully, with recovered briskness, she added:

"Well, I miss him. But it's better. It was ten years since he was hurt."

"Only that long?" Elizabeth breathed.

"Isn't that long enough, child?"

"I mean . . . I can't seem to remember him any other way."

And Elizabeth sat, quiescent but resentful, under what she knew was coming, must be coming, words that would break forever the illusion of peace in this old white house and spoil even the refuge of this kitchen.

"I suppose not," Miss Gurney agreed. "But it was very different before that. Father was a very active man. He was old, but he chopped his own wood, and drove the team . . . you don't remember that?"

Elizabeth shook her head.

"Yes," Miss Gurney mused, "he sat in that chair for ten years. He was ninety-one when he died."

The words, the time, year by year, sank into Elizabeth. In the midst of these years, the little moans and sounds she used to hear from that shadowed bedroom—meaningless then—took on a significance of protesting pain all the more terrible because it was barely articulate.

"How did it happen?"

Miss Gurney said, "Well, he was getting into the wagon. I suppose he was stiff with cold. He'd been working around the place. Anyway, he slipped, and the wheels went over his body. Broke both legs. He was too old for them to mend. He never could get around again."

Yes, Elizabeth realized now that the faint sense of difference in the house, troubling her even while she held it off, was just the deepening of its quiet. And there was something like pain, only wider and bleaker, in the quiet itself—something that seemed to be an echo to their voices, to Miss Gurney's matter-of-fact voice as she went on.

"Yes, he was helpless ten years, and mother before that. You don't remember my mother, Elizabeth. She died when you were a little girl. But it was a queer thing —yes, sir, I've often thought of that—

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that mother should have been crippled by an accident, too. She was picking some apples, and either the branch broke with her, or the stepladder slipped out from under her feet—anyway, she was crippled for the rest of her life. It was a pretty hard ending for folks that had been so active and worked so hard."

Elizabeth said:

"Did you take care of them both, Miss Gurney?"

"I was the only one to do it, Elizabeth."

IV

Miss Gurney broke off what might have been a sigh, perhaps only a breath, to open the oven door. Elizabeth sat staring at her. Then even this quiet household was not set apart! It had to take its place with the others, all changing, within the loop of the moving river! It was quiet . . . but what help was there in a quietness that was only what was left over when the worst was done? She was going to ask Miss Gurney if she minded being there alone.

But looking at that strong face, with the eyes averted and the lips compressed, she suddenly knew the answer too keenly to hear it. She saw that active, cheerful life within the silent house as a diminishing, perhaps unconscious waiting for what had never come, and now never would. And yet Miss Gurney could *do* things. All at once, the words that she had come here to speak rose uncontrollably to Elizabeth's lips.

"Miss Gurney—when things happen to people, how can they stand to go on living? Why don't they simply die?"

She waited not daring to breathe.

Miss Gurney said, after a moment, poking at her cake with a broom straw, "Well, Elizabeth, I guess they just have to learn to take things as they come."

"Yes, but then . . . *how* do they? I don't see how."

Miss Gurney gave an abrupt laugh, although her face was sober.

"Well, they just learn to, I guess. Because they have to."

In the lonely quiet of that house—a faint crackle of fire in the stove, a rustle of leaves outside—Elizabeth seemed to feel, at a far distance, her own suffering sinking slowly into the darkness of trees and ground that had held everything before it.

But was that all the answer? She stared at Miss Gurney with eyes wide open and dark with pain in her young, quivering face. A remoteness came over the strong, averted face of the older woman. It was as if she dared not meet the living pain in Elizabeth's eyes with its absence in her own. Elizabeth saw that look. Then the answer was worse than none! She would not have it. And she squeezed her hands tightly together, clinging to her suffering . . . as if, when its freshness was gone, it would be the one thing lost forever.

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CITIZENSHIP

BY JAMES M. CAIN

THE GOVERNOR'S *office, about two o'clock in the afternoon. Ranged about the table, talking in whispers, are a petitioner for a pardon, dressed in ordinary clothes but having a pasty pallor, a singularly close haircut, and a habit of starting nervously whenever he is addressed; two guards, carrying guns on their hips in holsters; a witness, a prosecutor, and counsel for the petitioner.* THE GOVERNOR *enters, accompanied by a woman secretary, and they all stand up until he has sat down and donned his glasses. In a moment a lovely aroma begins to perfume the air. It is such an aroma as pervades a bonded distillery, and unmistakably it comes from the head of the table, where* THE GOVERNOR *has taken his place.*

THE GOVERNOR—Gen'lemen, y' may p'ceed.

COUNSEL FOR THE PETITIONER—Yes, Yexcellency.

THE GOVERNOR—'N I'll ashk y' t' be 's brief 's y' can, c'se ' busy af'noon w' me. Gi' me th' facksh, that's all I wnt' know. 'M plain blunt man, ' got no time f' detailsh. Gi' me ' facksh, 'n y' won't have t' worry 'bout fair trea'm'nt f'm me.

COUNSEL—I think I speak for everybody here, Yexcellency, when I say we're all anxious to save Yexcellency's time, and—

THE GOVERNOR—'Preciate 'at.

COUNSEL—And so I imagine the best way would be for me to sketch in for Yexcellency, briefly of course, the history of this case, I may say this very unusual case—

THE PROSECUTOR—So unusual, Yexcellency, that the Parole Board threw up its hands and refused to have anything to do with it whatsoever, and that is why Yexcellency's valuable time—

THE GOVERNOR—Nev' min' ' Parole Board. Is 't mer'tor's case, tha's all ' want ' know.

THE PROSECUTOR—I understand that, Yexcellency. I only wanted to say that the prawscution regards this case as abslutely prepawstrous.

THE GOVERNOR—A' right. Y' said it.

COUNSEL—Now Yexcellency, this young man Greenfield Farms, this young man you see here—

THE GOVERNOR—One mom'nt. When's ex'cution take plashe?

COUNSEL—I'm glad Yexcellency reminded me of that, because praps I ought to have explained it sooner. Fact of the matter, Yexcellency, this is not a capital case—

THE GOVERNOR—Gi' me facksh, gi' me facksh! I got no time f' detailsh. When's ex'cution take plashe, I said.

COUNSEL—Yes, Yexcellency. I was only telling Yexcellency that there won't be any execution, because—

THE GOVERNOR—Wha's 'at?

COUNSEL—Because this young man Farms wasn't sentenced to death; he was sentenced to the penitentiary—

THE GOVERNOR—Oh!

COUNSEL—On a ten-year term, ten years in prison, for participation in the armed march we had some years ago, when the miners made all that trouble. Or, as it's never been clear in my mind that Farms had any idea what he was doing at that time—

THE PETITIONER—Never did. I hope my die I just went out there to see what was going on—

A GUARD—Hey! Sh!

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COUNSEL—Praps I should have said alleged participation.

THE PROSECUTOR—And another thing praps you should have said was that of his ten years in prison he has already served three and he'll get two more off for good behavior and that leaves five and five is a little different from ten.

THE GOVERNOR—C'me on, c'me on!

THE PROSECUTOR—I'm only—

THE GOVERNOR—Y' pett'fogg'n. Shu' up.

COUNSEL—Now, Yexcellency will recall that as a result of that uprising, six defendants, of which Farms was one, were convicted of treason to the State and the rest were allowed to plead guilty of unlawful assemblage—

THE GOVERNOR—Don't was' m' time talk'n 'bout 'at upris'n. I know all 'bout it. I 's right there 'n saw fi' thous'n of 'm march by m' own front ya'd. Get on 'th' facksh.

COUNSEL—Then if Yexcellency is familiar with that, we're ready now for this witness, and after he has told his story I can outline briefly to Yexcellency the peculiar bearing it has on this case, and—

THE GOVERNOR—Is 'at ' witness?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Sit over here where I c'n see y' better. 'N don't shtan' 'n awe 'f me. Washa name?

THE WITNESS—Ote Bailey, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Shpeak right out, Bailey. M' ' plain blunt man 'n y' needn't shtan' 'n awe 'f me.

COUNSEL—Now Bailey, if you'll tell the Governor in your own words what you told the Parole Board—

THE WITNESS—Well, it was like this. I was coming down the street on the milk-wagon early in the morning, right down Center street in Coal City, and it was cold and there was a thin skim of ice on the street. And the mare was a-slipping and sliding pretty near every step, because she was old and the cheap dairy company hadn't shoed her right for cold weather. And—

THE GOVERNOR—Wha's 'at? Milk-wagon?

COUNSEL—Just a moment, Yexcellency. Now Bailey, you forgot to tell the Governor when this was.

THE WITNESS—This here was twenty-three year ago come next January.

COUNSEL—All right, now go ahead and—

THE GOVERNOR—Hol' on, Bailey, hol' on. (*To Counsel*) Young man, I got ' worl' o' patience. M' plain blunt man, al's will'n t' help people 'n distress, p'ticularly when . . . p'ticularly . . . p'ticularly . . . h'm . . . p'ticularly. But wha's twen'-three yea's 'go got t' do 'th 'is ex'cution? Tell me that.

COUNSEL—Well, Yexcellency, I thought it would save time if we let Bailey tell his story first, and then I can outline the bearing it has on this case.

THE GOVERNOR—Young man, 're you trifl'n 'th me?

COUNSEL—Not at all, Yexcellency, I—

THE GOVERNOR—I warn y' ri' now I won't shtan' f' trifl'n. Facksh, facksh, tha's what I want!

COUNSEL—Yes, Yexcellency.

THE GOVERNOR—A' right, Bailey, g' on 'th it. I'll see 'f I c'n get ' facksh m'self.

THE WITNESS—So pretty soon, the mare went down. She went right down in the shafts, and I seen I would have to unhook her to get her up.

THE GOVERNOR—Y' right, y' qui' right. Y' can't get 'm up 'thout y' unhook 'm. No use try'n. G' on.

THE WITNESS—So then I got down offen the wagon and commence unhooking her. And I just got one breeching unwrapped, cause they didn't have snap breechings then, when I heared something.

THE GOVERNOR—Whasha hear?

THE WITNESS—I heared a mewling.

THE GOVERNOR—Mewl'n?

THE WITNESS—That's right. First off, sound like a cat, but then it didn't sound like no cat. Sound funny.

THE GOVERNOR—What ' sound like?

THE WITNESS—Sound like a child.

THE GOVERNOR—Y' sure?

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THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Soun' like ' child. Thank God, now 'm gett'n some facksh. G' on. What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So I left the mare, left her laying right where she was, and commence looking around to see where it was coming from.

THE GOVERNOR—Where *what* was com'n f'm?

THE WITNESS—This here mewling.

THE GOVERNOR—Oh, yes. Mewl'n. F'got f' mom'nt. G' on, Bailey. Shpeak right out. Don't shtan' 'n awe 'f me. What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So pretty soon I figured it must be coming from the sewer, what run right down under Center street, and I went over to the manhole and listened and sure enough that was where it was coming from.

THE GOVERNOR—Shew'r?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Keep right on, Bailey. Y' g' me more facksh 'n fi' minutes 'n whole pack ' lawyersh gi' me 'n ' week.

COUNSEL—I assure Yexcellency—

THE GOVERNOR—Keep out o' this, young man. Y' tried m' patience 'nough already. 'M after facksh 'n 'm gett'n 'm. G' on, Bailey.

THE WITNESS—So I tried to get the cover offen the manhole, but I couldn't lift it. I tried hard as I could, but I couldn't budge it.

THE GOVERNOR—Busha tried?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Thasha shtuff! G' on.

THE WITNESS—So then I figured the best thing was to get some help and I run all the way up and down the street looking for a cop. And pretty soon I found a couple of them. And first off, they didn't believe it, but then when they come to the manhole and heared this here mewling, they tried to lift the cover with me, and all three of us couldn't move it, and why we couldn't move it was it was froze to the rim.

THE GOVERNOR—F'oze?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—F'oze. G' on.

THE WITNESS—So then we figured the best thing to do would be to put in a alarm. We figured if we got the fire company down there maybe they would have something to move it with.

THE GOVERNOR—G' on. Keep right on till I tell y' to shtop, Bailey.

THE WITNESS—So we went to the box and put in a alarm. And pretty soon here come the hook-and-ladder galloping down the street. And five fellows what was members of the Coal City Volunteer Fire Department was on it, because they was still setting in the fire-house playing a poker game what they had started the night before after supper.

THE GOVERNOR—The Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir. So then—

THE GOVERNOR—Wait ' minute. Wait ' minute, Bailey. Y' touch m' heart now. The ol' Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment, wha' y' know 'bout 'at? I was mem' that m'self. I was ' mem' that—lessee, mus' been thirty yea's 'go.

COUNSEL—I hear it was a wonderful company in those days, Yexcellency.

THE GOVERNOR—Won'ful 'n 'en some. We won ' State ca'nival three times runn'n.

COUNSEL—You don't mean it, Yexcellency!

THE GOVERNOR—Well, well! Y' touch m' hea't now, Bailey, y' cert'ny have. 'S goin' be ha'd f' me t' send y' t' chair 'f y' was mem' old Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment. G' on. What 'en?

THE WITNESS—?

COUNSEL—Don't sit there with your mouth hanging open like that, Bailey. The Governor was thinking of something else, of course.

THE WITNESS—Oh! So then them fellows pulled in their horses and got down offen the hook-and-ladder and commence hollering where was the fire. So we told them it wasn't no fire but a child down the sewer and then they got sore, because they claim we broke up their poker game and it was roodles.

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THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So we ast them to help us get the cover off, and they wasn't going to do it. But just then this here mewling come again, just a little bit. It had kind of died off, but now it started up again, and them fellows, soon as they heared it, they got busy. Cause this here mewling, it give you the shivers right up and down your back.

THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So then we put the blade of one of them axes next to the cover, between it and the rim, and beat on it with another ax. And that broke it loose and we got it off.

THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So then them fireman put a belt on me, what they use to hook on the hose when they shove it up on them ladders, and let me down in the sewer. And I struck a match and sure enough there was the child, all wrapped up in a bunch of rags laying out on the sewer water. And why it hadn't sunk was that the sewer water was froze and a good thing we didn't shove no ladder down there because if we had the ice would of got broke and the child would of fell in.

THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So I grabbed the child, and them fellows pulled me up, and then we all got on the hook-and-ladder and whipped up them horses for the Coal City Hospital, 'cause it looked like to me that child was half froze to death, but when we give it in to the hospital we found out that being in the sewer hadn't hurt it none and it was all right.

THE GOVERNOR—So y' saved ' child?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Tha's good! . . . Well, Bailey, y' made ' good case f' y'self. I don't min' say'n, 'm 'pressed.

COUNSEL—But this witness isn't quite finished with his testimony, Yexcellency.

THE GOVERNOR—Wha's 'at? He saved ' child, didn' he? 'A's all ' wan' know. Facksh, facksh, tha's what I go on!

COUNSEL—But Yexcellency—

THE GOVERNOR—A' right, a' right. G' on, Bailey, what 'en?

THE WITNESS—So then, when I got back to the milk-wagon, and unwrapped the other breeching and unslipped the traces, the old mare couldn't get up nohow. She was stiff from cold, and I had to get them cops again and shoot her. So the dairy company was pretty sore. The old mare, she weren't worth more'n twenty-five dollars, but them company men let on I was hired to take care of the company property and not pull no babies outen the sewer.

THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—So we had it pretty hot for a while, and then later on that day I went down to the hospital for to look at the baby and got them nurses there to name him Greenfield Farms, what was the name of the dairy company, so when they put it in the Coal City *News* about the baby being found the company would get a free ad outen it, anyway twenty-five dollars' worth, what was the worth of the mare, and they did and we was square.

THE GOVERNOR—What 'en?

THE WITNESS—Well, I reckon that's all. 'Cepting I picked up the paper about six months ago, and I seen where a fellow name of Greenfield Farms had spoke a piece at a entertainment what they had in the penitentiary, and I got to wondering if it was the same one, and I asked one or two people about it, and they sent me to this gentleman here, and come to find out it was.

COUNSEL—So Yexcellency can see that this young man here, this young man Greenfield Farms, is one and the same with the child this witness pulled out of the sewer twenty-three years ago.

THE GOVERNOR—'N 'a's all?

THE WITNESS—Yes, sir.

THE GOVERNOR—Well Bailey, ' don' min' say'n' y' touch m' hea't. The ol' Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment, wha' y' know 'bout 'at?

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COUNSEL—Now, Yexcellency, you've heard the story of this witness, I may say the truly remarkable story of this witness, which I think Yexcellency will agree had the stamp of truth all over it—

THE GOVERNOR—The ol' Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment. . . !

COUNSEL—A story, praps I should add, that we are prepared to substantiate in every particular from the hospital records, which we will leave with Yexcellency, and I may call Yexcellency's attention to this certificate in particular which states that the child was at least a month old when it was admitted, and—

THE GOVERNOR—Now wha's all 'is got t' do 'th pa'don f' Bailey?

COUNSEL—Farms, Yexcellency.

THE GOVERNOR—Farmsh 'en?

COUNSEL—I'm coming to that, Yexcellency. Now the salient point about this evidence, Yexcellency, is that it establishes beyond any reasonable doubt in my mind, that there is nowhere in existing records any proof of Farms's citizenship. He was, I remind Yexcellency, a month old when admitted to the Coal City Hospital. And what does that prove? It proves, Yexcellency, that he *might* have been born almost anywhere on the whole face of the earth. He *might* have been born anywhere from Greenland's icy mountains to India's coral strand. He is, so far as documentary proof to the contrary goes, Yexcellency, that *most* unfortunate being, I may say that *pitiable* being, who can claim *no* land as his own, being *nothing* more or less, Yexcellency, as the fellow says, a man without a country!

THE GOVERNOR—Well, well, well. I ashk y' f' facksh 'n now y' begin shpout'n poetry at me. Man 'thout country, hunh? Tha's in'st'n.

COUNSEL—Now I remind Yexcellency once more that the crime of which Farms stands convicted is treason. And treason is unique among crimes, Yexcellency, in that before any man can be *convicted* of it, his *citizenship* must be established, beyond all *shadow* of doubt, because TREASON, Yexcellency, as all the AUTHORITIES agree—

THE GOVERNOR—Shtop yell'n!

COUNSEL—Yes, Yexcellency.—Implies a ALLEGIANCE—a allegiance to the State against which it is alleged to have been committed. And under the law—

THE GOVERNOR—Law? Law? Y' talk'n' t' me 'bout law?

COUNSEL—Yes, Yexcellency, and—

THE GOVERNOR—Washa com'n t' me 'bout law for? Why 'nsha go t' court 'bout law?

COUNSEL—We've been to court, Yexcellency. We applied to the Supreme Court two months ago for a new trial, on the basis of the evidence which Yexcellency has just listened to, and which, praps I should have explained sooner, was not presented at the original trial because Farms had no idea at that time of the importance of his citizenship, and neglected to inform me of the peculiar circumstances attending his birth. And the court denied the application, on the ground that while this evidence, if it *had* been presented at the trial, *might* have resulted in the granting of a motion to dismiss, it could not properly be regarded as *new* evidence, as it is essentially evidence of *lack* of evidence on the part of the State, rather than *direct* evidence of innocence.

THE PROSECUTOR—In other words, Yexcellency is being asked to certify that if the dog hadn't stopped to scratch fleas he would have caught the rabbit.

COUNSEL—Not in the least, Yexcellency—

THE GOVERNOR—Y' know what? Y' both ' pair ' pett-fogg'n lawyersh. Y' 'sgrace t' bar. Farmsh! C'me here. I'll do this m'self. Sit there, where ' c'n see y'.

THE PETITIONER—Yes, sir. Thank you, sir, Governor.

THE GOVERNOR—A' right, Farmsh, shpeak right up now. Y' needn't shtan' 'n awe 'f me. 'M plain blunt man 'n got hea't

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's big 's all outdoorsh. Washa got ' say f' y'self?

THE PETITIONER—Governor, all I got to say is I went out there when them miners was gathering by the creek forks just to see what was going on—

THE GOVERNOR—Thasha shtuff! Facksh! Motivesh! Tha's wha' ' want. G' on, Farmsh. What 'en?

THE PETITIONER—And then when they marched down the road, I went along with them just for fun.

THE GOVERNOR—Now we com'n. G' on.

THE PETITIONER—And then they sent me up. And . . . and . . .

THE GOVERNOR—Farmsh, now I ask y' some'n. If I was t' set y' free, what would y' do 'th y' lib'ty?

THE PETITIONER—If you was to set me free, Governor, the first thing I would do would be to go to the judge and get my citizenship fixed up—

THE PROSECUTOR—That's great! I'll say that's great! There you are, Yexcellency, right out of their own mouths! First this man isn't guilty because maybe the prawscution couldn't have proved his citizenship. And the first thing he's going to do if he gets a pardon is to get his citizenship fixed up! If that doesn't—

COUNSEL—Not at all, Yexcellency. In fact, I resent the imputation of—

THE GOVERNOR—Shtop! F' God's sake shtop! (*To the Secretary*) C'mute ' sen'ce 'mpris'nment f' life!

THE PETITIONER—What? Oh my God!

THE PROSECUTOR—Hunh?

COUNSEL—But, Yexcellency—

THE GOVERNOR—No more! 'M not g'n lis'n ' 'nother word! 'S comp'mise. 'S comp'mise, I know it's comp'mise. But 's bes' ' c'n do. Who y' think y' are, tak'n up my time ' way y' have? Don' min' f' m'self. 'M plain blunt man 'n give y' shirt off m' back 'f y' need it. But my time b'longsh t' people. Y' und'-shtan' 'at? My time b'longsh t' people, 'n wha' y' do with it? I ashk y' f' facksh 'n y' come in here 'th noth'n but tech' calitiesh! Tech'calitiesh I said! Pett'-fogg'n! Trifl'n detailsh! Dog! Fleash! Rabbit! Poetry! 'M done with it! 'M not g'n lis'n 'nother word!

COUNSEL—But really, Yexcellency,—

THE PETITIONER—Yeah, a fine lawyer you was. First you git me sent up for ten year and now you git me sent up for life—

THE WITNESS—Yeah, and a fine thing the Coal City Volunteer Fire Department done for the country when they pulled you out of the sewer—

THE GOVERNOR—Wha's 'at? Wha's 'at?

COUNSEL—I'm just trying to tell Yexcellency—

THE GOVERNOR—Jus' minute, jus' minute! . . . The ol' Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment! Wha' y' know 'bout 'at? So Farmsh, y' were mem' ol' Coal City Vol'teer Fi' D'pa'ment?

THE PETITIONER—Well . . . I reckon I was, in a way, Governor. I reckon I was, ha ha! I reckon I was kind of born to it, ha ha ha! I reckon I must be pretty near the only person in the world that was ever born to a fire department, ha-ha, ha-ha!

THE GOVERNOR—Farmsh, 'm g'n ask y' some'n. Look m' 'n ' eye, Farmsh. Farmsh, y' guilty 'r y' not guilty?

THE PETITIONER—Governor, I hope my die I ain't no more guilty than you are.

THE GOVERNOR—Farmsh, I believe y'tell'n' me ' truth. Farmsh, y' free man.

THE PETITIONER—Oh my Gawd, Governor, thank you sir, thank. . . !

THE GOVERNOR—The ol' Coal City Vol'-teer Fi' D'pa'ment. Wha' y' know 'bout 'at? Wha' y' know 'bout 'at? . . .

While the Secretary makes out a pardon and the GOVERNOR *signs it, the group breaks up in a round of handshaking, the lawyers to go out and have a drink together, the petitioner to go back to the penitentiary for the last formalities. When they have all gone, the* GOVERNOR *still sits nodding to himself, and presently falls amiably asleep.*

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EDITORIAL

One of the unexpected but charming results of the current demand for Law Enforcement is that it is causing a great many Americans, hitherto not noticeably interested in the subject, to give some consideration to the origin and nature of law itself. No doubt most of them grew up thinking of it, innocently enough, as something on the order of the weather—that is as something that was an integral part of the vast mystery and agony of nature, and so had a primal and irrefragable sanction behind it, like Original Sin, colds in the head, and the lilies of the field. But now, deafened day and night by all sorts of exhortations, they are forced to look into the matter a bit more particularly, and one of the consequences, I suspect, is that they find law considerably more human than it used to seem, and hence considerably more dubious. The phenomenon is not new in the world, for we saw the same thing happening in the case of sex half a generation ago, and in the case of Holy Writ when most of us were young. Law is simply taking its turn. Like sex, it is found to be much less mysterious than it looked aforetime, and like Holy Writ, it is found to be much less majestic. What will happen in the long run I do not pretend to prophesy, but meanwhile it is certainly pleasant to see another ancient fee-faw-fum hauled under a good light.

The theory that there is something sacred about law is always propagated very diligently by gentlemen thirsty for power, and it has never been propagated so diligently as it is by such persons in the United States today. They erect upon it a cult that takes on a passionate and even mystical character. The thing that we must grovel to, so they teach, is not this or that law, not the good law as opposed to the bad law, but law in general, *all* law. But it takes no great acuity to see that what they are really arguing for, whatever their pretensions otherwise, is some law that they are especially interested in. They care nothing, in truth, for law in general. They are willing to sacrifice nearly anything that is commonly regarded as good in it for what they themselves look upon as something better, and their rage and roaring for that something better increase in direct proportion as other persons hold it to be something worse.

This is so plain in the case of the Prohibition law that the fact scarcely needs laboring. The Prohibitionists, when they were lobbying their panacea through Congress and the State Legislatures, were perfectly willing to make terms with any sort of lawlessness in order to get what they wanted. They did not strike their bargains with crooked legislators as a matter of unpleasant and unescapable necessity; they did it by free choice and preference, and on the frank ground, openly admitted at the time, that such scoundrels were more pliant than honest men. A sincere Prohibitionist from the back counties could not be trusted to do precisely what he was told to do. He had ideas of his own, and would run amok at critical moments. But once a professional politician, corrupt by nature and training, had come to terms with the Prohibitionists, they knew that they could trust him to carry out their orders with military exactness. His reward was freedom to pursue his own devices in all other fields. That is to say, it was freedom to be as crooked as he pleased—to flout and make a mock of any other laws that stood in the way of his desires. Thus Prohibition was foisted on us by the votes of men who, if all the laws were actually

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enforced, would have been marched directly to jail from the scenes of their great service to God and country.

This alliance with corruption has been succeeded, since Prohibition got upon the law-books, by an alliance with other and even worse varieties of crime. There seems, indeed, to be no limit to the complaisance of the Prohibitionists in this direction. They are not only willing to condone the most barbaric kinds of assault and the most atrocious kinds of murder; they seem actually eager to promote such crimes, for when they applaud one they seldom fail to hint that more would be agreeable to them. Worse, they encourage by shrewd and deliberate devices every known sort of fraud and false pretense, so that in communities where they are in power neighbor is ranged against neighbor, the immemorial decencies are abandoned, and life becomes almost intolerable. And yet all this wholesale aiding and abetting of crime is carried on in the name of Law Enforcement!

II

The psychology here is surely not occult: even a Freudian should be able to penetrate it. What the Prohibitionists are really driving for is not the enforcement of the laws, but simply power. They have no more respect for law *per se* than a bootlegger, and perhaps the logic that supports them is quite as good as his. Nor have they any necessary belief that the one law they want to enforce will do any good. That is not their object: it is to hold and exert power, to impose their will upon other persons and especially upon those they dislike, to make those other persons sweat and suffer. If it could be proved beyond question—as, indeed, it is already proved more than half way—that their law does far more harm than good, that it makes men worse instead of better, that it even promotes the very evil it professes to put down, they would still continue to be in favor of it. For, just as Abraham Lincoln was willing to sacrifice the slaves in order to save the Union, *i.e.*, in order to save his own side, his own power, his own job, so the Prohibitionists would be willing to see the country plunged into drunkenness in order to retain the right to harass and badger drinkers.

So much begins to be obvious to everyone, including even the editorial writers of newspapers. What is too often overlooked is that most other laws have no more solid dignity and authority behind them. Save for a few that have come down to us from the innocent childhood of the race, they all represent efforts by one group of men to obtain and exercise power over other groups of men. In all probability, not a law that falls outside that description has been passed in Christendom for a hundred years. Some of them represent the desires of groups that, while standing outside the government, have managed to gather enough force to persuade it or intimidate it, but most represent simply the desires of the governing group itself. They are not at bottom, or in any true sense, measures for promoting the general welfare; they are simply devices whereby the men who happen to govern us seek to augment their power, and to keep it in their hands.

It would be hard to define government better than by saying that it is a continuing conspiracy to that end, or law than by calling it the common agent of the process. The pretense of both, of course, is that they are altruistic, that their one objective is the common weal, but that pretense is too plainly false to need any formal rebuttal. Their one true objective is almost the exact opposite: it is to shear us of our liberties as much as possible, to the end that the governing camorra may be as safe as possible. The pressure, to be sure, lets up now and then, but that is only when the men in control of the law-making machinery happen to be transiently weak. The moment they recover they are back at the old game—grinding all the money out of us that we will yield, and surrounding us with as formidable a network of taboos and prohibitions as we will endure. The

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by about 2,000 during the war. Since that time the fugitive brethren have been drifting back gradually, but not all have returned. India's shock troops in the war against sin currently number 5,282, and they are posted at some 920 vantage points.

After a whole century of work in China, there are only 200,000 Protestant Chinese today in a population of 450,000,000. The showing in Japan is a little better. After nearly seventy years of work, the registered members of the Protestant churches today number 154,000 in a population of 60,000,000. Even adding the returns of the Roman Catholic and Greek churches, the total is still under 300,000. Thus, less than half of one per cent of the population of Japan has embraced Christianity, and less than half of that small number may be claimed by the militant evangelical churches of the United States, Canada and Great Britain, most of which have backed their preaching with educational, medical and social work of real value to the Japanese.

There was a time in the early days, as may be gleaned from the highly uninteresting but sanctified diaries of the now canonized pioneers, when the missionaries dreamed of a Pentecost in which the whole awakening Empire would be won for Christianity. So eager were the Japanese to take up all things Western that the country looked like a set-up for the welter-weights of the Lord. Some of the leaders of Japanese thought at that time cold-bloodedly advocated the adoption of Christianity as a school of morals and music, and as likely to be advantageous in political negotiations with the Powers of the West. As time went on and the missionaries increased, a fairly good knowledge of English was wrapped up and thrown in with every conversion to Christ, and with that knowledge of English the earning power of the Japanese increased from 100 to 200%. So there arose in the land a term, "rice Christian," which to this day sounds like leprosy to the missionaries. It designates those Japanese—or Chinese in China—who have embraced Christianity solely for the educational advantages or daily rice that conversion carries with it. Among the Japanese the term is not opprobrious; it is simply a confession of expediency. I have asked a number of them whose English seemed unusually good for their station in life where they learned the tongue. In many cases, they replied readily and without guile that they were rice Christians. None could explain even the simplest outlines of the religion of Christ. But to fall in with Christianity until a good working knowledge of English is picked up seems to the Japanese not a bad bargain, and it isn't.

Among the 154,000 Protestant Christians of Japan today, aside from a few hand-picked educators in the mission schools and colleges, there are not a dozen political or cultural leaders of the nation. There has been no instance of a Premier, a general or admiral, a Cabinet member or, with possibly one exception, a great scientist, of Japan professing Christianity. Basil Hall Chamberlain, in his "Things Japanese," accounts in part for Christianity's failure to penetrate the high places by pointing out that thinking Japanese cannot help observing "the openly immoral politics of the so-called Christian nations," and how in the East they "eagerly avail themselves of each bespattered priest or battered mission house to exact some commercial advantage or snatch some strip of territory."

The inadequacy of the missionaries to answer doctrinal queries put to them by educated Japanese also tends to hold down their list of converts. On this point Yusuke Tsurumi, a Liberal member of the Diet who has lectured at Williamstown and Chicago, relates the following personal experience:

> At the age of sixteen I came into contact with Christianity. With the simplicity of a boy I went regularly to the Bible classes of an American missionary. The next Winter I felt ready to be baptized. Still there was one question in my mind. I wanted to settle that doubt first. I went to the missionary, a lady. I explained that I wanted to be baptized. Then I asked her the question:
>
> "You told me that salvation comes only through baptism, did you not?"

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"Yes, I said so," she replied.

"Well then, what happened to the wise men and leaders of Japan in ancient times? It was not their fault that they were not baptized, for there was no Christianity in Japan then. Are they in Heaven?"

"I am sorry, Mr. Tsurumi, but I do not think they are," she said.

That was a terrific blow to my young mind. It cooled my fervor immediately. I thought of myself and my classmates, ordinary boys, and then I thought of those heroes of old Japan who had done so much for our country. They were not in Heaven; it did not seem right. So I was not baptized. It was not until years later in America that I learned that the missionary's interpretation was not the only one about salvation.

Japanese Christians come from the middle and lower classes, and are mainly clerks, shopkeepers, civil service employés, farmers and servants. Some of the missionaries of today think that it was a mistake not to concentrate on the evangelization of the upper classes first. Instead, the early comers sought to convert the lower classes, with the result that the higher levels remain pretty well untouched to this day. Long ago the Protestants gave up all thought of saving the whole Empire. Last year an English missionary and a Japanese pastor collaborated on the following weighty opinion:

During the past twenty years the Christian church in Japan, relative to the growth of population, has advanced at the rate of .01% per annum. . . . At the present rate of advance it would take ten thousand years to make Japan Christian.

Arriving gradually at this verity, the missionaries collectively have asked themselves what the hell, and, tidying up the vineyard a bit, have settled down to enjoy life in a land of sunshine and flowers.

II

Who are the missionaries to Japan? In the main, they are Middle Westerners of farm or small-town parsonage antecedents. Stirred in youth by the vast yearning of the prairie people to get away from the Bible flats, and heated up by occasional sermons on the romantic work of the church in foreign parts, they naturally cast their eyes upon missionary endeavor as a career. It plainly opened the way to a place of envy and esteem in the eyes of the community, and at the same time answered adolescent manifestations of the religious instinct. After a so-called education at some Fundamentalist seminary, all that was needed was a little wire-pulling and in no time they found themselves standing wide-eyed at the steamer rail, a Bible on the hip, bearing down on majestic Fujiyama. About one in three hundred of the American missionary hordes has been a scholar. The rest have been of the garden variety of Bible Belt circuit riders. These the Lord hath verily led into green pastures. But they don't fool the Japanese one whit.

Here, for example, is a frank estimate by one of Japan's most eminent leaders, Count Aisuke Kabayama, himself decorated with an honorary degree by Wesleyan University of Middletown, Conn., a Methodist stronghold, a member of the Emperor's Privy Council, and of the House of Peers, and a capitalist and statesman. In an interview published in the *Japan Advertiser*, an English language paper of Tokyo, American-owned and semi-mouthpiece of the missionaries, Count Kabayama said:

I believe your missionaries who come to teach us are of that type of people generally who could earn a living in no other way. The average missionary out here would, in America, be a failure in any other calling, and probably has been. So he goes into foreign mission work. That sort of man is not fit to teach us about Christianity. There are some who are great men. Bishop Welsh did a great work in Korea and I admire him thoroughly. There are others who are doing good work here, but I am speaking of the average. The missionaries on a whole are mediocre in mental calibre and are not intellectually equipped to carry on their work.

Count Kabayama was educated in Methodist schools in the United States and baptized in the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Another representative opinion is that of Mr. Motsada Zumoto, former editor of the *Herald of Asia*, president of the International Journalists Association of Tokyo, speaker at two sessions of the Williamstown Institute of Politics, and one of Japan's leading publicists. At a banquet in the Imperial Hotel in Tokyo in March, 1926, Mr. Zumoto said:

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remedy we seek when the thing becomes intolerable is always political: that is, we throw one gang out and put in another. But that remedy is as deceitful as the laws which provoke its use, for there is no appreciable difference between one gang and another. No sooner is the new one in power than it begins to act precisely like the old one—ever seeking new sources of power, ever trying to make itself more secure, ever feeling out new means of oppression. Thus the one actual purpose of government, whatever its form, is to entrench and prosper the ruling group. Everything else is afterthought and false pretense.

III

It may be hard for patriotic Americans to think of so lofty a soul as Dr. Hoover responding to such motives. The picture of him that we get officially shows an altruist tossing upon his bed the whole night long, his vitals consumed by a febrile libido to make us all safe, rich and virtuous. It may be, indeed, that Dr. Hoover takes some such view of the matter himself—that he sees himself, not as one who is getting something, but as one who is ever giving something. If so, it only proves that he is a victim, there on his arctic height, of the same self-delusion that afflicts the rest of us, groveling on the ground. His actual concern, you may be sure, is something very different. What he worries over is not the welfare and happiness of you and me, but the welfare and happiness of Dr. Hoover—and the best way he has yet discovered to conserve them is to hang on to his job, just like any other jobholder.

The splendors of the Presidency enchant him, as they enchant all men of his taste. He feeds voluptuously, like a colt turned out to clover, upon its high privileges and prerogatives, its vast and mysterious powers, the caressing deferences that go with it, its sheer Asiatic gaudiness. These things lured him so powerfully that he sweated to gain them over long years, hoping against hope. He was willing to spend money for them. He was willing to applaud what he knew to be nonsense and to be silent about what he knew to be sense. He was willing to embrace the loathsome, whether in creature or in idea, and to evade and forget the decent. He was even willing to become an American, God save us all! Now, having got what he wants, he devotes himself to keeping it, and on the same terms. If he could facilitate the business by sacrificing your interest and mine, he'd do it instantly, and without a second thought. If there are any more Bishop Cannons looming ahead he will kiss their amethyst rings as eagerly and as innocently as he did the last time. If there are any more Mabel Willebrandts he will be full of the old *politesse*. And if the coon delegates come back from the Confederate marshes he will once more feed them.

But let us not hold him up to obloquy for running true to his trade, his class, his kind. They are all precisely alike. No member of the governmental camorra, however exalted, ever gives any honest consideration to anything save his job. Here the best of the lot is almost indistinguishable from the worst. Confront him with two courses, one of which, though grossly and obviously imprudent, has the support of popular folly, and the other of which, though wise, is held suspect by his constituents, and he will go for the former with all the virtuous enthusiasm of a Prohibition agent going for a bribe. The whole art of government in modern states consists in finding such follies and riding into office upon them. Hoover has found some good ones, and on them he will gallop far.

Such are the men who rule us. Taking one with another, they stand in dignity somewhere between chiropractors and spiritualists, mine-stock promotors and Methodist bishops. The product of their obscene struggle for place and profit is what is called law. This law we are now asked to respect and revere, as if it were handed down from Sinai. Let us bear that fact in mind the next time the old exhortation goes rolling over the land. H. L. M.

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SAVING SOULS IN JAPAN

BY OLAND D. RUSSELL

FORTUNATE indeed are those workers in the Vineyard who have received the call to spread the Word among the little brown gentlemen of Japan. The Japanese signed a treaty with the United States in 1859 solemnly promising that they would no longer boot out the scouts of the Lord, and ever since that time Protestant missionary work in the Empire has been chiefly in the hands of Americans. Among the parsons themselves it is regarded as the Elysian Fields of missionary endeavor. No other race of the unsaved is so agreeable as the Japanese.

Essentially a courteous people, with an innate desire to please those with whom they come into contact, they are invitingly submissive in the realm of the spiritual. The whole attitude of their minds has been aptly described as one of "politeness toward possibilities." Set a missionary down among them and they do not scamper up a tree like the African heathen, nor do they retire behind the inscrutable blandness of the Chinese; instead, they are attentive, alert and striving ever to anticipate the missionary's desires.

Told of the One True and Holy Way in shaking, somber tones, the polite Japanese nearer, hoping to end an apparent unpleasantness which he does not fathom, smiles an eager assent and the missionary writes one more on his cuff. Every so often a dozen or two of Suzukis, Yamadas and Tanakas are lumped together, and back home goes the roster of a new band of converts. Then the mission boards publish the figures with perhaps a picture or two of a Buddhist picnic, add enthusiastic words about the wonderful work going on out there, and end up with the inevitable appeal for more funds.

In religious toleration by the government, the United States could take lessons from Japan. Article XXVIII of the Constitution of the Empire decrees that "Japanese subjects shall, within limits not prejudicial to peace and order, and not antagonistic to their duties as subjects, enjoy freedom of religious belief." No sect is barred, nor the practices of any interfered with. On a Summer day in Tokyo two years ago a group of Moslems disemboweled a cow publicly in the performance of certain rites, while a Protestant sect ducked an odd lot of local gentry in a muddy lagoon to the accompaniment of Christian incantations. The Japanese, officially and privately, looked upon each with the same good humor.

There are today 900 missionaries in Japan, scattered about in what they prefer to call, in their rugged manner, stations. These stations number 125. Four years ago there were 1,200 missionaries in the country, but several denominations have announced a program of retrenchment, to the horror of the missionaries themselves. Fear of recall has united all of them on at least that one issue, and the theme of their reports and speeches is constantly: Send more workers, more funds!

Numerically, both China and India outnumbered Japan in the matter of missionaries. Before the wave of nationalism swept over China in 1927 (during the raging of which the exuberant Cantonese could not always be repressed from gathering missionary ears as souvenirs of their northward march to Peking), the number in the country was 7,663 in 740 stations. It decreased

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> Christianity comes to Asia in a spirit of arrogant superiority and an attitude of narrow exclusiveness. Missionaries are sent out by the thousands and at great expense. So long as they confine themselves to language teachings, their services are not unwelcome. But as religious teachers their presence is an implied insult to the great moral and religious forces that have built up our noble civilization. The missionary fails to or refuses to see that the East can get along very well in matters spiritual without any guidance from the West. Consequently the attempt of the West to thrust its religion upon us cannot fail to breed discord, ill-feeling and strife.

Neither of these men is a missionary-baiter. Their denunciations of the missionaries naturally produced uproars. The missionaries themselves sputtered and stormed in letters to the press, but the weightiest of their arguments was that the two English language newspapers in Tokyo shouldn't have printed such stuff. The one or two missionaries in Tokyo who could have made adequate replies remained discreetly silent.

To maintain the missionary personnel in Japan, the American churches spend several million dollars a year, and among most denominations the amounts are increasing. The 1929 appropriation of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian Church was $197,196.14. This sum paid for salaries, transportation, maintenance of buildings, and the cost of all other activities. This sect listed sixty missionaries in its 1928 roster, of which twenty-five were marked absent, that is, home on furlough. The American Baptist Foreign Missionary Society sent $124,654.77 to Japan in 1928 and $125,794.91 in 1929. These sums were exclusive of the amounts sent by the Baptist Women's Missionary Society of the same branch of Baptists, which appropriated $69,634.17 for 1929. The Baptist missionaries numbered forty-eight, with eleven absentees in 1928. The Board of Foreign Missions of the Methodist Episcopal Church South forwarded $184,236.97 in 1928 for about the same-sized staff. The Reformed Church in America, with twenty-six workers and eleven absentees set aside $91,112.47 for 1928 and raised the amount to $92,431 for 1929. The American Episcopal Church made a gross appropriation of $484,428 in 1928, including sums for the maintenance of a university and of St. Luke's International Hospital at Tokyo, the most creditable missionary enterprise in all Japan. This church has nearly 100 workers in the field, inclusive of American physicians, nurses and staff workers in the hospital.

Figures for all of the half hundred sects and societies maintaining missionaries in Japan are not available, but those cited above are representative. Salaries vary widely, but certainly no missionary lives in straitened circumstances. The Japanese put a luxury tax on most articles of food which are staples to foreign residents, which makes the cost of living in Japan, in city or country, relatively higher than in America. Only by adopting the Japanese diet of rice, fish and native vegetables can foreigners live cheaply. But I have never heard of any missionary going native with regard to food. The homes of all are well-furnished, and frequently over-staffed with student servants who are working their way upward in Christianity. In Tokyo the homes of certain missionaries are more pretentious than those of the foreign business and professional men.

Socially, the missionaries in Japan occupy a slightly better position than those of China, but nevertheless they remain near the bottom rung of the ladder. In the China ports, social alignments are graduated downward from the diplomatic or consular corps. Always the foreigners set the pace, with the Chinese on the outside looking in. In Japan the contrary holds: it is the Japanese who maintain the most exclusive circles, into which only foreigners of the diplomatic corps have an occasional entrée and then only by virtue of their official standing. There may be plenty of gold-braided gentlemen who delude themselves into thinking they have successfully stormed the citadel of the wealthy, cultured Japanese families, but those who have been in Tokyo for a long while admit that there is one inner fastness to which

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experience shows them they can never dream of penetrating. Aside, however, from the Japanese élite, the diplomatic corps easily maintains top dog position among the foreigners.

Only the missionaries of the Episcopal church have entrée into this society of the diplomats, which is led by the British and American Embassy groups, which both attend the Episcopal church in Tokyo. Occasionally, the American Embassy group makes a pass at the Baptists or Methodists, but little comes of it. Once, at Christmas, the wife of the American consul in Formosa was giving a dinner for all the American residents on the island. Deciding to include the missionaries, she ordered her rikisha and traveled five miles over the bumpy Formosan roads to an interior station to deliver her invitation personally to the good Presbyterian sisters.

"I am giving a dinner Christmas Day for all the Americans on the island," she told them, "and I'll be delighted if you will come. I'll send rikishas for you."

The missionary shook her head solemnly.

"Thank you, but we can't come," she said. "It's the Lord's Day. Christmas comes on Sunday this year and we couldn't think of going visiting on the Lord's Day."

In general, the Episcopal missionaries are a thorn in the side of the Baptist, Presbyterian and Methodist brethren. The Episcopalians believe that one may play bridge, dance, and drink copiously through dinner, and still remain out of the clutches of Satan. When some Worthy Cause demands a united endeavor among the missionaries, the Episcopalian ladies insist on giving a bridge, and the Methodist sisters go off and have a good cry over the hypocrisy of some churchwomen.

Frequently the cause is the American School in Japan, ostensibly a non-denominational school for children of American residents in Japan. Actually it is a missionary school, controlled and largely populated by the immensely prolific Methodists. Two Methodist reverends of Tokyo have jocularly confessed to a race for the honor of putting the most children in the school. In 1926 each had six there.

On one occasion, when funds were being raised for the school, all hands, including the Episcopalians, joined in one of those purse-gutting bazaars which so frequently inflict themselves upon foreign colonies in the Far East. The Fundamentalists divvied up the concessions, which ran the gamut from hot-dog stands to home-made pincushions. A prominent business man's wife, knowing that the affair would be turned into a dance if the colony turned out *en masse*, announced that she and one or two like-minded ladies would operate a bar, and rumors went abroad that the Episcopalians were quietly conniving at her enterprise.

The Methodists and Presbyterians let out a whoop, but after several weeks of battle the liberals won an off-side anteroom for the bar, while the hard shells took the remaining floor space for their booths. The colony thronged the "saloon," some getting uproariously drunk and contributing mightily to the missionary school. The Presbyterians, with averted glances, saw that the bar was doing a whale of a business, and there were muttered threats to refuse the proceeds, but when a recount was made later and it was revealed that the whiskey sales tripled the combined total of everything else, the American School in Japan took the money without another word.

One aftermath was very significant. The *Japan Advertiser*, the American-owned English language newspaper of Tokyo, which circulates back to the all-powerful Home Boards, was asked not to report the fact that the liquor booth had yielded such heavy returns. The story was already in type when wires were pulled at the eleventh hour, and the whiskey totals came out under the notation of "white elephant sale receipts," for back-home consumption.

Because the American Club in Tokyo and the similar clubs in Yokohama and Kobe have thriving bars, the missionaries

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have avoided them as devastating haunts of the Devil. More, they indulge in annual outbursts to the press castigating the custom of the American *chargé d' affaires* or consul proposing a toast to the President on July 4, when free drinks are served all day at the bars. In one fearless, open letter, a missionary once demanded to know, if toasts must be drunk, why they could not be drunk in milk, so that Americans abroad might uphold the Eighteenth Amendment just as they did at home.

III

Every Summer all the denominations and sects of Protestant Christianity, with the sole exception of the Salvation Army, migrate *en masse* to the little mountain resort of Karuizawa, about ninety miles northeast of Tokyo. Karuizawa becomes then a holy of holies. Through the hot months of July, August and September, the missionaries remain there and lay their plans for the Winter offensive against sin. A large wooden tabernacle has been built to accommodate the faithful, and an imposing array of talent is annually foregathered in the village. It is a Chautauqua devoted entirely to God, without the usual distraction of musical saw artists.

Virtually every known heavenly agency in America is represented at Karuizawa. Even the Methodist Board of Prohibition, Temperance and Public Morals sends an agent. His work consists largely in hanging up charts on the walls of a tabernacle anteroom showing the comparative development of an alcoholic and a non-alcoholic guinea pig. A running text in English quotes the usual "prominent scientists" on the effects of alcohol in a family of white rats. All this is translated into Japanese. During the five years that the Methodist wowsers have had a direct representative in Japan, the consumption of beer in the Empire has increased, to quote the Japan Mission Year Book for 1928, "at an alarming rate, from 13,000,000 gallons to 34,715,548 gallons."

The W. C. T. U. ladies also foregather annually at Karuizawa and compare notes on their campaign against the wicked geisha. As in the case of beer consumption, the number of geisha has increased from 72,000 in 1926 to 79,935 in 1928, to quote the Year Book. However, the ladies remain indefatigable. Innumerable discussions are held on the unrepressed lives of the little butterfly girls, to the accompaniment of much Christian head-wagging.

There was unusual activity during the Summer of 1927, when the customary number of missionaries in attendance was almost doubled by the divines who had fled the Nationalist drive in China. Japan was the nearest sanctum and they arrived in time for the Karuizawa season. Once they got their breath after their precipitate flight they settled down to a bus rider's holiday.

Among other things, they dug up about 150 Chinese laundrymen and servants who had been allowed to go about their regular ways, gambling, drinking and carousing, mainly because the Japan missionaries spoke no Chinese. Forthwith these sinners were hauled into a meeting and preached to by brethren who had just been ejected from their homeland. The campaign among the Chinese afforded a pleasant little workout that Summer for the visiting missionaries and ended with a mass "conversion." The next year the Chinese resumed their lives of sin.

In addition to the enjoyment of a three-months' vacation at Karuizawa, not a few of the missionaries have realized pretty sums in the real estate business of the resort, which annually lures many Japanese and non-missionary foreigners because of its excellent climate. All such deals are so much velvet, for the stewardship of the Lord does not require reports on real estate transfers.

There are two hotels in Karuizawa, both Japanese-owned. One, the Karuizawa Hotel, caters to the missionary trade; the other, the Mampei, to the non-missionaries. The latter has a bar; the former has

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none. But the American visitor who orders a drink at the Karuizawa gets a touch of home-sickness when he sees the neat way in which it is smuggled in from some interior recess.

The glorious Summer over and the missionaries rested from their nine months of labor in the vineyard, they return to their "work" at their stations. What is this work? No better cross sectional view of it may be had than the one sketched in the Japan Mission Year Book by Miss Helen Topping, a tireless sister who writes on "Work for Fishermen":

> There are about 1,300,000 fishermen along the coasts of the Japanese archipelago. Probably 5,000,000 in all are connected with them, including their wives and children. Their psychology is very peculiar, quite different from that of ordinary people. For instance, some spend all their money in one day and the next day they are starving. They say that they do not know where they will be the next minute—maybe in the bottom of the sea—so they want to enjoy life while they can. They sleep in the daytime and work during the night. They are hard drinkers and incline to gambling. I preached for nine months to the fishermen. My experience taught me that we must approach them from the side of fishery technic. . . . As Jesus Christ taught Peter where to fish, so with present-day fishermen, we must help them in their technic of their own work—where to fish and how to catch fishes.

Sister Topping does not say where she got her own knowledge of fishing; neither does she reveal how much more fish were caught by her methods, nor does she say how many converts were recorded during her nine months' work.

To combat any tendency of the home boards to withdraw missionaries and let the organized Japanese churches carry on the work, she writes:

> If the missions withdraw before they reach the neglected classes and leave them to the Japanese church, we do not know when we can evangelize them. Even though the Japanese churches have attained economic independence, they are in great difficulties, and they have no extra energy to organize special missions to the neglected. We need to see the need and venture a new movement to uplift those who are sitting in darkness. . . . That is the reason why I want to ask the attention of the mission boards. We cannot wait! The field is ripe! The tide is high! We must work now, or lose the chance for at least half a century.

IV

Several years ago, one of the great Christian denominations of the United States assembled in Seattle a group of divines with commissions to Japan. By mistake, one holy man caught an earlier boat for Yokohama. He decided to await the rest of his party there before proceeding to his station in the interior. Eager to get into the swing of things Japanese, he decided to treat himself to a Japanese dinner his first evening in town. The hotel clerk arranged matters with a rikisha coolie and the clergyman was trundled off to a Japanese restaurant. The coolie suspected that the gentleman would be delighted to have a few geisha entertain him during dinner and so told the head-waiter. This was arranged and the little girls served him well, and added a symbolical geisha dance, resembling an animated Japanese print and about as tempting. This pleased the clergyman highly; he looked upon the dance as a folk dance and quite innocent. An idea was born to him that it wouldn't be a bad thing, as showing his speedy adaptability to the new land, to stake the rest of his party, upon their arrival, to some similar entertainment.

He was at the boat to meet the others and told them of his plan for the evening: a real Japanese dinner with geisha. The ladies appeared squeamish at the mention of geisha, but the host assured them that he had seen the little girls in operation, that they were most innocent, that it was after all only folk dances of Old Japan that they offered, and that the evening would be most instructive. So the party accepted. An old hand by then, the clergyman led them forth from the hotel in the evening, clapped his hands for rikishas in the manner of the true Far Easterner, and repeated the word "dance" several times to the rikishamen.

The coolies took it that these foreigners wanted to see such dances as other port visitors demanded and so trotted off with the party to a notorious sporting-house.

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There is nothing to distinguish a sporting-house in Japan from an ordinary tea house. Once inside, squatting adventurously on the straw matting, the good ladies and gentlemen of the cloth smiled with anticipation while their leader spoke the magic word "dance" to the Mama-san.

In this house, "dance" at the request of foreigners meant only one thing: the famous *chon-kin-a* of the treaty ports, a strip dance to song. The girls were brought on and forthwith plunged into their song, and began disrobing in penalty for being caught on the stops. Something told the clergyman leader that all was not well, but he was still most reassuring; meanwhile, the ladies of the party were paling, while the gentlemen were reddening. All at once one little girl caught a heavy penalty, and as the music stopped suddenly she flung off her last kimono and stood stark naked in front of the group and began a foreign-taught hip-heaving. Two of the ladies fainted; a third screamed and ran out. Mistaking a door, she entered a room where Something Worse was going on.

The next day, when the party left for the interior, one remained behind with orders to take the next boat home for his outrageous "plot." That was probably the shortest stay any missionary has ever enjoyed in Japan.

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APOSTLE OF MANIFEST DESTINY

BY BERNARD MAYO

IN 1829 Triumphant Democracy installed General Andrew Jackson in the People's Palace, swilled about the Washington rum barrels, and demanded jobs. From Monticello, Miss., came Colonel Anthony Butler to inflame his friend Andy's ambition with glowing tales of the Mexican province of Texas and the ease with which it might be acquired. Crown your administration with an empire, urged Butler. Annex Texas!

Jackson had just been forced to recall Joel R. Poinsett, our first minister to Mexico. Remembered as a botanist by the poinsettia, Poinsett the diplomat was execrated when he introduced York Rite Masonic chapters into Mexico and made the land a battlefield between *Yorkinos* and *Escoceses*. The undiplomatic botanist recalled, who was more suitable for the post than Jackson's friend, Colonel Butler? A convivial fellow, he would restore cordial relations and at the same time acquire Texas. There would be no bewigged diplomacy, no folderol—nothing but plain hoss sense and results. Ignorant alike of Spanish and of diplomacy, and financially interested in Texan lands, Butler's only qualification for the job was an intimate acquaintance with Texas and a strong desire to see it annexed to the United States. "Peculiarly adapted to the station," recommended the State Department. "A soldier and citizen of the highest honor and respectability," Jackson informed Mexico. And Mexico in 1829, hotly resentful of Poinsett's politico-Masonic activities, fearful of the next move from the North, received Col. A. Butler, Good Will Ambassador from the United States.

Apostle of Manifest Destiny was Butler. Fate and Andrew Jackson had chosen him agent of that predominant American force—expansion. His mission was only another phase of America's imperial story, from the Founding Fathers at Jamestown, the booty of the Mexican and Spanish Wars, the Rooseveltian rape of Panama, down to Marine-ruled Nicaragua. His was the voice of the Westward Movement that spilled itself over the Mississippi Basin, northward to Oregon, southward to Mexico. "We are the Advance Guard of Civilization," men shouted as they exterminated Choctaws and Shawnees, yelled hallelujahs in revivals, and in "boxing-matches" gouged, bit, and abelarded each other amid homeric laughter. Greedy eyes turned on the rich lands of Hispanicized Indians. Arrogant Nordics, God's Chosen, extended their civilization into the Mexican province of Texas. Agricultural imperialists, men of Butler's breed, swarmed there: Mirabeau Buonaparte Lamar, fire-eater; Sam Houston, antic conqueror; Bowie with his sharp knife, and Irish impresarios who gave vast areas such names as San Patricio. Bombastic Congressmen rhapsodized over the delicious, most delightful champaign country of Texas—bountiful prairies, flowers, sweet water, buffalo, pure elastic air. Texas was the paradise of North America, "what the South of France and the North of Italy are to Europe." Far too good a country for half-breed mongrels of decadent Spain! It is ours by all the laws of God and Nature! It is our Manifest Destiny!

Jackson gave Butler five millions to buy Texas. "Sharp-set for Texas," growled suspicious John Quincy Adams, vitriolic

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Nestor of the House of Representatives, Jackson "set his double-engines to work: of negotiating to buy Texas with one hand, and instigating the people of that province to revolt against Mexico with the other. Houston was his agent for the rebellion, and Anthony Butler, a Mississippi land-jobber in Texas, for the purchase." We must have Texas, instructed Jackson, to round out the United States. It dominates New Orleans and the Mississippi Valley. Texas is of no earthly benefit to Mexico. Faced with a Spanish invasion, revolts in Texas, and finances "depressed and languishing," Mexico would be a fool to refuse five million dollars. With that sum she can defend her remaining territory, become a progressive nation, and "follow in the footsteps of the United States." Point out that the cession will be mutually beneficial, and above all, Jackson warned Butler, on account of the hostility incited by Poinsett, preserve secrecy of negotiations.

But the whole Texas scheme was disclosed immediately upon the Colonel's arrival in Mexico City. *El Sol*, a leading newspaper, announced that the Good Will Ambassador had come to insult the nation by a shameful offer for Texas. This is most remarkable, reported Butler; "they know everything even to the price. But I will unravel the mystery." There was, in fact, no mystery. The diplomat had simply boasted too loudly in Texas of what he intended to do in Mexico City. His boasting and his patronizing instructions aroused the Mexicans to a rage of national pride. The Americano was not a conquering superman but a territorial sneak-thief, devious and insidious, grossly hypocritical. An odious monster "with scarcely no face," he stole his neighbor's land and boasted of his barbarous civilization. In his overweening vanity he named his drab hamlets after imperial cities of ancient Greece and Rome, his house of Congress the Capitol, and the muddy rivulet before it the Tiber. In contrast to this Barbarian of the North the Mexican possessed all the culture with none of the vices of Europe. The hearts of his people overflowed with love for their fellow men. Proud hidalgos, they condescended when they received in their midst a Mississippi Colonel.

Thus the wings of Good Will were singed at the start. In secret session the Mexican Congress fulminated at Yankee imperialism, garrisoned the border, barred Americans from Texas, and settled Mexican convicts there instead. But the Colonel was not squelched. "I may be deceived," he wrote to Jackson, "but I flatter myself to be able to settle every question committed to my charge in six months." Transmitting a report on his negotiations, he apologized for his ignorance of Spanish, "but to trust such a document to another (for translating) would at once disclose the fact that I had access to the secret proceedings of the Mexican government." The wings of Manifest Destiny remained unclipped. "I repeat," modestly continued the Colonel, "I shall manage this people better than Mr. Poinsett was able to do."

The Mexican attitude was naturally not to his liking. He urged Jackson to insult the Mexican Minister at Washington. Give him a drubbing! Show Mexico her place! Don't fret about Texas, he tells the choleric old Indian fighter in the White House: it takes at least a couple of months to annex an empire. My conversations with Alaman, the Mexican Secretary of State, have been frequent and explicit. "I have mystified him a little, so as to leave him not without hope." But it was Jackson who was mystified. To keep his job Butler kept the old gentleman "wiggling and snapping at the bait," says Adams, "like a mackerel at a red rag." Soon the Colonel gravely disclosed his doubts of Mexican sincerity. He had encountered Mexican generals and charlatans as unscrupulous as himself. Lucas Alaman, the real head of Mexico, short, spectacled, affectedly reserved, "a student of Metternich and Nesselrode," was wily, scheming, equal to Santa Anna in treach-

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ery. Tall and affable was Santa Anna himself. "Were I made God," said he, "I should wish to be something more." Out of power, he was "tiger, atheist, unrivaled chameleon, worthy son of the father of lies, genius of evil and avarice." But just now he was in favor. The Spanish invading army had been carried off by yellow fever and he proclaimed himself the Napoleon of the West. "Viva Santa Anna, the Victor of Tampico!"

When he revolted and seized the customs house at Vera Cruz, a prime source of Mexican revenue, Butler hinted to Alaman of a loan of several millions from the United States. With an eye to Texas, Jackson called this a very "judicious" suggestion. Mexico was hard up. Alaman had to have money to pay his troops or yield to Santa Anna. "I think I hold the key to unlock his heart," wrote Butler, "and the means of enlightening his understanding." The money "to facilitate the Negotiation" would be covered of course by a secret article in the treaty giving us Texas. Jackson made no reply. The Napoleon of the West marched into Mexico City. And Butler wailed of "golden prospects turned into moonshine."

"But I am not despondent," he wrote to Jackson. "I will succeed in uniting T —— to our country before I am through with the subject or I will forfeit my head!" And promptly turning to bribe the administration, headed by General Pedraza, he vowed to "vanquish his scruples" by the "one road"—Spanish gold. When Pedraza, fearful of "the propriety of the measure," remained unvanquished, Butler advanced the brilliant idea of lending money to Mexico with Texas as security. Mexico could never repay the loan, and a mortgage on Texas was equivalent to purchase. The Constitution, alas, interfered with his scheme and forced the Colonel to try his hand at revolution. In high hopes that an uprising in Texas would mean subsequent annexation to the United States, he wrote to Jackson that he had hired the President of the Mexican Congress for the job. He would pay him $600,000 "of the sum to which you have limited me in purchasing men, and the remainder in purchasing the country." Thus proposing bribery and violence, he at the same time protested indignantly against charges of Yankee intrigue in Texas. Manifest Destiny, it would seem, was socking Good Will on the nose.

Good Will, indeed, was a lot of moonshine. The Colonel snorted his disgust at instructions "to preserve a social, open, frank deportment, a proper respect for Mexican opinion, and the most guarded care in condemning and censuring." He had come to get Texas, had pledged his head to Andy Jackson, and by God! he was going to get it. When Mexicans said that they could not degrade themselves by selling their soil "to a rival Power and from the highest rank among American nations sink into contemptible mediocrity," he called that moonshine too. Mexicans would do anything for money, and he had five millions to give them for Texas. For six years he thrived on opposition, held mysterious conferences, and thoroughly enjoyed life in the Mexican capital.

II

From the day of his arrival the American Minister's "dishonorable and obscene intentions" made him an interesting addition to Mexico City's social life. While still a guest of the impeccable Poinsett the Colonel "had held up a piece of gold coin, of the value of sixteen dollars or thereabouts, to one or more delicate and well-bred ladies, daughters of a most respectable and wealthy citizen, who occupies a large house on the opposite side of the street to that of the legation." Occasionally he went so far as to propose marriage to the señoritas, although he had a wife in America. Jauntily he swung his large, black knotted club along the plazas, a gay Jacksonian diplomat. Cavaliers resplendent in tight-fitting trousers, short jackets, and huge sombreros, galloped past him. Ladies

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in ornate coaches drove slowly by, inviting his review. About him thronged begging lepers, *evangelistas* writing love notes for the unlettered, lousy soldiers, gaudy officers, and orange-girls, their charms temptingly displayed in low bodices and short skirts expanded wide with hoops. At the Barrio Santa Anna he watches the whirl of red petticoats and open chemisettes in a wild fandango. Berated by a fellow American, the diplomat applies his knotted club. Passing on, he gaily waves his cane at ladies who nibble sweetmeats, smoke, and gaze idly from balcony to street below. "Hail Immaculate Mary, the cocks are coming!" proclaims a herald, and the Colonel directs himself to the cockpits or tarries at the monte tables.

Amorous inclinations did not preclude get-rich-quick schemes. The American Minister lent money at the usurious rate of 2½% a month, wrote "most horrible letters" to his debtors—respectable mercers, grocers, merchants—embargoed their goods, and haled them into court. He refused to pay his own debts and clubbed his creditors, but the High Tribunal of Justice finally compelled him to settle for his rent and compensate the owner of the house for wrecking the place. He defrauded his washerwoman. He cheated John, the black man who furnished him victuals. When the menials delivered him over to the *alcalde* he claimed diplomatic immunity, "alleging the inviolability of his person and property as *chargé d'affaires* of the United States."

"I have never known so base and bad a man," wrote an American resident; our Minister "has not one friend in Mexico amongst the foreigners and is despised by most of the Mexicans." Wilcocks, the American consul, complained to Jackson when the Colonel attempted to use money held in trust to make "loans at a heavy rate of interest until such time as it should be called for." Among other charges, all substantially documented, was one that he had boasted of having supported Henry Clay, Esq., Jackson's great rival. Other Americans characterized him as ignorant, mischievous, immoral; a gambler, bully, and rake. But none charged him with strong drink: he was a Galahad according to Anti-Saloon League morality. Without waiting for an investigation, President Jackson dismissed Wilcocks, forwarded the accusations to friend Butler—who could answer them "in ample time"—, and asked him to fill Wilcocks' position. It was a fine thing to know a President who regarded one as being "of the highest honor and respectability." Good old Andy, ever true to his pals!

"That most degraded and contemptible of all contemptible men, Mr. James Smith Wilcocks!" was the Colonel's blast, in ample time, from Mexico City. "Charges the most absurd and inconsistent ever concocted by a moonstruck wretch!" Support Harry Clay? How ridiculous! Insult visiting Americans? My slanderers refer to an assault made on me by the brother-in-law of one of your bitterest foes. He masqueraded as a bully but I unmasked him. When he reviled *you*, General Jackson, "I *compelled him* to be silent. I afterwards had to shake my cane over his head."

The presidential confidence soon inspired fresh assaults upon Mexican integrity, moral and territorial. Butler now advanced the idea that the Nueces and not the Sabine was the true boundary. If Jackson will order troops into the vast territory between the two rivers the Texans will revolt and all Texas will be ours. "I will negotiate or fight, and my preference is for the latter. It will cost less than one-half, aye, two-thirds, to take rather than purchase the Territory. If you place me at the head of the country, I will pledge my head that we have all we desire in less than six months. Why do I recommend this course? It is because I am anxious for your glory."

But nature had made Butler a diplomat, not a soldier. There was no fighting. His spleen diverted itself now to Santa Anna, who had assumed the presidency. "A vile hypocrite whose only landmark is self,

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you can have no hold on his moral principles," he tells Jackson, "because he is without any." Within a month Butler attempted to bribe the unmoral monster through an influential friend who would deliver a Texas treaty for $500,000. "Have you command of money?" asked the mysterious Mexican, "and I, recollecting," the Colonel tells Jackson, "that you had authorized me to employ the amount designed for this object in any way best calculated to effect the purpose, replied: 'Yes, I have money. Assure me of the object and the money shall not fail.' If I close this negotiation *successfully*, I shall myself be the bearer of the treaty to the U. S. because it may be necessary to make *explanations* which can only be done *personally*. Once I put them in the right humor," he concluded exultantly, "we shall proceed and adjust the articles in six hours."

Jackson expressed astonishment at the use Butler was making of his "discretion," chided him for not writing in cipher, and warned him not to let "these shrewd fellows impute you with tampering with their officers to obtain the cession through corruption." The Colonel was dumbfounded, hurt, indignant. For four years, Mr. President, he replied, your private notes have authorized "conciliating, or corrupting, if you please, influential individuals to aid me in a successful negotiation for T ——." Your caution in regard to these shrewd fellows only shows how little you know of Mexico, where Congressmen shout for their bribe before passing a bill. "Nay, Sir, so unblushingly is this thing done you hear the very sum stated." Now, you ordered me to get Texas, gave me a certain sum, and said that "it was a matter of *no consequence to the government* how the money was disbursed. Let the negotiation be concluded when it may, if it is done in Mexico resort must be had to bribery, or presents, if the term is more appropriate."

"A. Butler. What a scamp!" was Jackson's comment. But he allowed the scamp to remain at his post and continue to jazz up the raucous strains of Manifest Destiny with bribery, violence and legerdemain. One can fancy how old John Q. Adams, if he had been fortunate enough to see these letters, would have poured his vitriol on the Apostle of Manifest Destiny. And on Jackson, plotting to dismember Mexico at the very moment he was threatening to hang John C. Calhoun for urging Nullification in South Carolina!

III

Mystified by Jackson's apparent contradiction in regard to Texas, the Colonel concluded that enemies were again at work. "For who in this world's wide range," he wrote to Jackson, "has been so fortunate as to escape the assaults of envy, malice, and detraction?" I rely on our twenty-five years of intimate, unreserved friendship, and the proud consciousness that my labors have been "as beneficial to the country as honorable to myself. Sir, you will ever find me ready to confront my accusers in five minutes' notice. Innocence is not only fearless but it needs no preparation. And my motto has ever been *semper paratus*." Passing to the golden prospects before him, the Colonel once more succeeded in making the President wiggle at the prize. Santa Anna has asked him about a loan. Alaman may return, and if he does, the subject being "already understood, we may expect all that we have a right to ask for." He tantalizes his old friend with mysterious "documents" and a "stumbling-block" that only the President can remove. He *must* see Jackson at once. The time is ripe for the acquisition of an empire. "I pledge myself to you, mark me, I give you my pledge that your administration shall not close without seeing the object in your possession."

In June of 1835, with knotted club and little black bag, the Apostle of Manifest Destiny swaggered down Pennsylvania avenue to the White House. Jackson's second term was closing. Would Texas at last be his? We can have Texas on our own

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terms, gentlemen, assured the beaming Colonel. He opened the little black bag and brought out the mysterious "document which would command the whole ground," —a note from Padre Hernandez, confidante of President Santa Anna and "manager of all the secret negotiations of the palace." All that is necessary, Mr. President, "is your consent to the secret article of the treaty." By the same means you can acquire New Mexico and the two Californias! Once again the Colonel would bribe Santa Anna. Ignacio Hernandez, father confessor and master of Mexican intrigue, would see that Texas was sold to the United States—in return for "five hundred thousand dollars judiciously applied."

Intensely anxious for Texas, willing to pay for it, willing to take advantage of a revolution to get it, Jackson, nevertheless, was stunned by this wholesale offer of two-thirds of Mexico. It sounded damned queer to Old Hickory. Surely his friend Butler had been duped by those shrewd fellows! Treacherous Santa Anna would flaunt Andrew Jackson's cupidity in the face of the world! No, said Jackson, "nothing will be countenanced to bring this government under the remotest imputation of being engaged in corruption or bribery." He retained bribery's agent, however, in his diplomatic service. Colonel Butler, somewhat crestfallen for the moment, returned to his post at Mexico.

In the meantime Texas had revolted, the Alamo had fallen—and Sam Houston was to achieve where Butler's brilliant diplomacy had failed. The war for Texas independence made further negotiations futile. Moreover, connecting Butler's return through Texas with the revolt, Santa Anna charged him with "imputed intrigues unbecoming a diplomatic agent," and requested his recall. His Excellency, with suave, biting irony, declared that the recall in no way reflected on the high character of his esteemed friend, Colonel Butler. He only hoped that the gentleman, upon his return to the United States, would be welcomed and caressed. Furious at his recall, Butler accused arm-chair diplomats at Washington of jealousy. He was not through with Mexico—there were personal grudges to settle before his departure.

So a brawling bully, "peculiarly adapted to the station," continued to belabor Good Will with his knotted club. Refusing to pay customs duties on the gaudy wagon he had purchased to carry a Texas treaty homeward, he convinced Monasterio, the Mexican Secretary of State, and Minister Ellis, his successor, that he was still diplomatically sanctified. Then he turned to General Tornel, Secretary of War, who had scornfully alluded to a knavish Mississippi Colonel. He would tweak the General's nose, shake his cane over his head. When the Cabinet Member discreetly retired to his chambers, the late Good Will Ambassador paid his respects to General José Maria Tornel, Secretary of War and Marine, etc.:

> There are no words, however energetic and offensive, that I would not use to insult you in terms so direct and gross as might excite you to resent them. Convinced that your cowardly heart quails, that you are recreant to every sentiment of the gentleman and soldier, no course remains but to inflict appropriate punishment. You must be taught by stripes to know yourself. This lesson will be given by me on the first occasion of meeting with you, and, as I take no secret advantage of any man, you are now apprized of my intentions that you may go prepared. For be assured that meet you when or where I may you shall receive the discipline of my cane or horse-whip. Should your caution enable you to elude the promised chastisement, I will then, before my departure from Mexico, expose you to the public gaze, an object of scorn and contempt, and show how completely the fable of the ass in the lion's skin is realized in the person of him who by official courtesy is saluted as His Excellency, General Tornel.

Outrageous Gringo, he had insulted not General José Maria but the proud Mexican nation! Barbarian, he had tried to provoke a duel in cultured, peace-loving Mexico! It was too much for a nation that had just lost its rich province of Texas to American adventurers. While Ellis consulted Washington, the Colonel, club in hand, scornfully regarded a hostile populace. A few days later Mexico summarily dismissed him and warned him to preserve the peace until

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he was out of the country. A whole month later he coolly informed Monasterio that he did not consider the dismissal official—it was not on the proper letterhead. "You and your government may rest assured," he continued, "that I shall not remain in Mexico one hour longer than is necessary to wind up my private affairs. It has never been a practice with me to thrust myself upon the hospitality of anybody; I cannot, therefore, think of doing so toward Mexico."

Days lengthened into weeks. Monasterio refused his demand for a military escort and a passport by way of Texas. Sam Houston had just captured the Napoleon of the West and set up an independent government. What would happen if he turned this Mississippi firebrand loose in Texas! Finally, months after he had been ordered to remove his presence from Mexico, Colonel Anthony Butler, diplomat extraordinary, left for the United States—without a passport, and by way of Texas.

On the very last day of Andrew Jackson's presidency the prize for which he and his friend Butler had long labored so assiduously—and so unscrupulously—came within grasping distance of the United States. On that day, March 3, 1837, the United States recognized Texas as an independent nation. The State Department's apology for the perverse conduct of Ambassador Butler, received along with our recognition of Texas, was denounced in Mexico as hypocritical and thoroughly American. It was merely another gesture of that dark angel, Manifest Destiny.

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AMERICANA

ARKANSAS

THE learned Ben M. Bogard, editor of the *Baptist and Commoner* of Little Rock, disposes of the problem of the Virgin Birth:

> Skeptics deny the miraculous conception of Christ. They declare that it would be impossible for a woman to be the mother of a child unless there was a father of the child. Marvelous faith have these skeptics. They cannot believe that a flesh and blood woman could be used to produce a child by God's power. That is impossible, they say, and yet turn right around and say they believe that evolution brought a full grown man into existence without either father or mother—just evolved from the original germ, and that this germ came into existence (a live germ from dead matter) without any power at all to help it! They believe what they want to believe and refuse to believe every time when the belief would favor the teaching of the Bible. Just another evidence of depravity of heart and wilful purpose to refuse God.

THE same great journal on the Second Coming:

> The notion that people have about the Second Coming of Christ is that when He comes the Judgment Day will also come, and that the world will come to an end. This idea is unscriptural and shows how little the Bible has been searched to find the truth by those who are leaders and teachers. Business will go on and governments will go on as now. After Jesus comes and takes the believers out of the world, then takes place the great tribulation. At the close of the tribulation the Lord will return, bringing with Him the members of His body, to begin His millennial reign. Then He will reveal Himself to the Jews. They will accept Him as their long-rejected Messiah. Then the millennium will begin; the Devil will be cast into the bottomless pit for a thousand years.
>
> The Jews have always been full of energy in business, as no other people, and when they become ambassadors for Christ there will be no lukewarmness or indifference. Either before or during the tribulation the Jews will have been restored to the Holy Land, rebuilding their temple and restoring the Jewish worship. Also during the tribulation the anti-Christ will come, most likely in the person of some great King, like Mussolini. It is supposed that he will be a personal incarnation of the Devil, just as Jesus was an incarnation of God. He will go to Jerusalem, and there do great signs and wonders, by which he will so delude the chosen people that they will accept him as their Messiah, and pay him divine honors in the temple. It will be then that Jesus will return and destroy him by the brightness of His coming.

CALIFORNIA

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> "DAVID—The Pinch Hitter."
> "SAUL—The Man Who Fumbled the Ball."
> "DANIEL—The Athlete Who Kept Fit—and How."
> "JESUS—The World Champion."

WARNING broadcast to a heedless world by the Free Tract Society, 746 Crocker street, Los Angeles:

> JESUS IS COMING SOON
>
> Dear one, do you realize the times we are living in? Prophecy is fast being fulfilled and I Thessalonians IV:16, 17 is at the door: "For the Lord himself shall descend from Heaven with a shout, and with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God; and the dead in Christ shall rise first; then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air and so shall we ever be with the Lord."
>
> I plead with you to be ready, lest it come upon you unawares. (You cannot say, "I was not warned.") "ETERNITY! where will you spend it?" "God is long-suffering, and not willing that any should perish." He is saying to you in this little tract, *Prepare to meet thy God.*

COLORADO

ASSOCIATED PRESS dispatch from Pueblo:

> When officers raided the farm of Charles H. Sanders, near Pueblo, they discovered the Lord's Prayer, printed on a large poster, in a still-house, and directly under it three barrels of mash. Another card, bearing the Twenty-third Psalm, was tacked over the still.

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DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

ANECDOTE from the celebrated Washington *Daily News:*

The President was talking, in humorous vein, to an old friend concerning some of the troubles of the Presidency.

"There is one law I should like to see passed," he said, with perhaps an insufficiently concealed wistfulness. "The President ought to be allowed to hang two men every year, without giving any reason or explanation for the sentence."

"Would two be enough?" the friend asked.

"Well, perhaps not," Mr. Hoover is said to have replied. "But I could get the word to twenty-five or thirty that they were being considered."

FLORIDA

THE Jacksonville *Journal* discovers something, and lets the world know about it in a leading editorial:

If what we now know we had known last November, it's possible that Herbert Hoover's victory would have been a different sort; perhaps, even, more glorious.

Those of us who admired Hoover as a man, respected his wide abilities and honored him for his accomplishments were worried a little about his humanity.

Here, some of us thought, was an impersonal, cold sort of a person: capable, energetic, with a great brain that seemed a little icy.

Such was the Hoover who went into the White House.

Unlike his opponent in the campaign, he seemed to lack that human touch we expect but rarely find in leaders.

But now our President has been revealed as a man who knows play as well as work.

Herbert Hoover builds dams!

What could be more typical of our engineer-President.

Others may golf, play bridge, delight in small pastimes. But Herb acquires and retains that human touch—by building dams.

GEORGIA

NEWS from the rising town of Edison, pearl of the Bible Belt:

Angered by a reprimand from her parents because she had attended a moving-picture show on Sunday, Miss Pearline Hammack, of this city, committed suicide last night by shooting herself in the head.

ILLINOIS

FROM the People's Forum of the Mattoon *Journal-Gazette:*

Editor *Journal-Gazette:*

I read an item in the *Journal-Gazette* on Friday evening that I sold to Tom Morrow a sow for $20. I absolutely did not do it. I sold the sow to my son, James McNeely. I never did have any dealings with Tom Morrow. I barely know him. My son still has the sow. If the sow had been sold to Tom Morrow I certainly would have asked for more than $20, for I couldn't afford to give a stranger the bargain I would to a child. God is a just God and will right all things.

MRS. EMMA M'NEELY.

A NEW champion appears in the grand old town of Champaign:

J. Bruce Haney of Kansas City, Mo., fell asleep during the noon hour to-day and Mrs. H. B. Schmidt of Champaign, was declared the winner in a rocking chair marathon. At the time Haney was disqualified the two had rocked for 280½ hours. Mrs. Schmidt continued rocking in an effort to make a record.

KENTUCKY

STRANGE workings of the powers and principalities of the air in Danville, as reported by the *Advocate:*

Dr. Robertson and others were amazed Monday afternoon while golfing out at the country club grounds when suddenly a white cloud dropped to the ground in the vicinity of Herrington Lake and arose and acted like a cyclone going east.

MARYLAND

THE Emmitsburg *Chronicle* on the troubles of the times:

Nothing's wrong with Emmitsburg except—entirely too many of us get up in the morning at the alarm of a Connecticut clock, button a pair of Chicago trousers to Ohio suspenders, put on a pair of shoes made in Massachusetts, wash in a Pittsburgh tin basin using Cincinnati soap and a cotton towel made in New Hampshire, sit down to a Grand Rapids table, eat pancakes made from Minneapolis flour, spread with Vermont maple syrup and Kansas City bacon fried on a St. Louis stove, buy fruit put up in California, seasoned with Colorado sugar, put on a hat made in Philadelphia, hitch a Detroit mule on Texas gasoline to an Ohio plow and work all day long on a Maryland farm covered with Pennsylvania mortgages, send our money to Chicago for auto tires, and at night crawl under a New Jersey blanket to be kept awake from a dern dog, the only home product on the place—wondering all the while why ready money and prosperity are not more abundant in this wonderful town of ours.

MISSISSIPPI

SPORTING news from the Christian town of Laurel, conveyed to the world by the alert United Press:

A muscular, powerfully built woman, who says she has roamed the swamps near here as a savage

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for six years, will be the object of one of the most unique hunts in the history of this bit of the old Southland Sunday. Plantation owners and villagers will take their dogs and search the swamps for the woman.

For months, stories of this unusual person, her hair-covered body giving her the appearance of an ape, have terrified residents of the countryside near Taylorsville, some distance from here. P. A. Walker, wealthy plantation owner, was the first person to see the strange creature and learn that she was a woman. Wednesday he was walking in his cotton fields when he saw the strange figure ahead of him. Walker hailed her. She turned—a wild look in her eyes, her unclothed muscular body ready to spring to safety.

"Her arms and legs were as muscular as a prizefighter's. Her body resembled an ape," Walker said. "Her entire body was covered with hair from an inch to four inches long. I questioned her but she would not reveal her identity. She told me she had taken to the swamps six years ago and since had lived on rabbits, squirrels and vegetables, which she ate raw. Suddenly, hardly before I could believe my eyes, she darted away."

After unsuccessful efforts to obtain bloodhounds to trail the woman, residents decided to search the swamps, and with the aid of their dogs attempt to capture her.

MISSOURI

INTELLECTUAL recreations of the Methodist Men's Club of Columbia, as revealed by the *Missourian*, the daily published by the School of Journalism of the University of Missouri:

A debate on the relative values of the ax and the plow will be a feature of the meeting of the Broadway Methodist Men's Club at 6:15 tonight in the basement of the church. B. E. Miller and E. L. McDonnell will support the contention that the invention of the ax has been more beneficial to mankind than the invention of the plow, while the negative of this proposition will be upheld by A. J. Meyer and A. A. Jeffrey. Hugh F. Grindstead will preside at the debate, and judges will be selected from the audience. The programme will open with a banquet served by the Missionary Society of the church. J. Kelley Wright, Jr., will sing a solo.

NEBRASKA

ASSOCIATED PRESS dispatch from the great Christian city of Omaha:

A nine-year-old girl, Betty Anne Moon, was the winner of a free marriage ceremony offered by an Omaha pastor as a prize in connection with a club picnic held Thursday night. Free services in a divorce case were offered by an attorney and won by Austin Vickery, Jr., twelve years old.

NEW YORK

COURSES offered by the Brooklyn Teachers' Association, "the largest local teachers' association in the United States":

AUCTION BRIDGE CLASSES

Explanatory Note—In order to secure well graded groups, beginners', intermediate and advanced classes are planned. Teachers are cautioned that in order to secure greatest benefit from the instruction they are to apply for registration in that group to which they feel they really belong. A brief outline of some of the points to be taught in each course follows:

BEGINNERS' CLASS

Mechanical Features of the Game;
Card Valuation (Quick Tricks);
Bidding Requirements;
Fundamentals of Play;
The Finesse.

INTERMEDIATE CLASS

Card Valuation (Quick and Probable Tricks);
Bids and Re-bids in the Various Positions;
Doubles (Positive and Negative);
General Principles of Play;
Leads (Rule of Eleven).

ADVANCED CLASS

Probable Trick Valuation;
Various Types of Bids and Responses;
Factors of Distribution;
Defensive and Offensive Play;
Responses, Discards and Echoes.

THE trials and tribulations of a country journalist, as revealed by the editor of the Avon *Herald:*

Last week, in a few copies of our paper, we published a story telling of the death of the Rev. John B. White. It came through reliable sources, but just as the wheels of the press were turning we had a call stating that the story was unverified. We stopped the press, pulled out the story, put in another story and proceeded. But the regrettable part is that we missed a big scoop, for when the *Herald* reached its readers, except for a half dozen early few, Mr. White had passed away.

CULTURAL news from Poughquag in the Pawling-Patterson *News:*

The Annual Trip Around the World held under the auspices of the Ladies' Aid Society occurred last Wednesday. The first country visited was Hawaii, at the home of Mrs. James Stowe. Refreshments consisting of fruit cup and saltines were served on the porch, which was decorated with American flags and red, white and blue drapery. Next England was visited at the home of Mrs. E. J. Williams, where were meat loaf, potato salad, coffee, biscuits and butter. Followed Switzerland at Miss Myrtle Prout's home; the table was set on the lawn and cottage cheese and raisin-brown-bread sandwiches delighted the palates of the feasters. Japan was

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portrayed at the home of Mrs. Henry Slocum, where, under the soft rays of Japanese lanterns in incense-laden atmosphere, tea, toasterettes and cookies were served to delighted patrons. Back to the United States for dessert, at the home of Miss Mollie Brill, where ice cream and cake crowned the evening. It was considered a very delightful affair.

PASTOR H. W. NEATHERY, of Falconer, writing in the celebrated *Religious Herald*, sets forth the sorrows of a Baptist clergyman in this great Christian State:

Virginia Baptists aided me in my education both at Richmond College and the Seminary, but when I turned to the State for a field there was something about me that turned me down. I would not write this but for one thing: I feel that others have suffered or experienced this as I have and I speak for them, too. I was sent to school to learn. I learned, or at least I got my degree. I went to the Seminary and got both a diploma and a degree. I have sought three fields in Virginia. I came very close to getting one of them. I missed one because one on the committee said that I parted my hair in the middle, a thing I never knew. However, before the error was corrected another had been called and I was out anyway. However honored I felt among those who did part their hair in the middle, I suffered both the humiliation of being refused, and of parting my hair on the right side.

In another case, I was told that whatever I and another member of the committee would agree on the rest would abide by it. So I went with this brother home and we sat down and made all arrangements for me to come. I was to sell out some things and bring others. Traveling expenses were agreed on and all that. When we went to sleep I began to feel at home and began to plan for the beginning of a new pastorate. The next morning I was taken to the train by another member of the committee, and he said not a word about my coming back, but he was the very one who said that whatever I and the other member agreed on, the rest would. I came home and began to make preparations to move, except that I did not offer my resignation, and would not do so until I had been officially called. Time went on and no word. I wrote to a minister who was near and asked him to find out the trouble. In substance it was that I knew too much for the man who took me to the train. So he made up his mind that I would not do, and I did not go.

Another time I was asked to visit a field and I went. I spent some days, and made myself at home just as I do among my own people. I was never treated more royally by any people and never preached to more appreciative audiences. They were about to buy a parsonage and asked my opinion of it, and I told them just what I thought about it. I had been officially connected with such schemes and knew some of the successes and failures of such undertakings and I freely gave them my advice and drew plans for them just as if I were coming. When I left I was told again: "You will hear from us soon." I have not heard yet, except that again I wrote to a neighboring pastor and told him my experiences and asked him if he would do a bit of detective work and find out just what the trouble was. He wrote that the only complaint he heard was that I acted just as if I were on the field and settled and was the real pastor, and that this was an offense to the committee.

NORTH CAROLINA

COMPANY welfare work in Greensboro, as reported by the *Patriot* thereof:

Seven Negroes were baptized in the Company mill stream Sunday afternoon.

ECCLESIASTICO-SOCIAL note from the eminent Wilson *Times:*

It is too bad that a little family dispute over private matters caused the exchange of two little slaps between man and wife, and this getting into the hands and mouths of the neighbors and then into the press, gave our former townsman, the Rev. Mr. Winstead, who was evidently serving his church at Swansboro with zeal, trouble sufficient to call in his presiding elder, who investigated the matter and found there was no necessity for a trial.

Both the Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Winstead were in our office today, and both heartily and sincerely deplore the incident. It seems that Mr. Winstead was sick, and unable to get around and have his friends indorse a note due at the bank, and asked his wife to attend to it for him. She thought it was more his job than hers, and one word, as usual, led to another, and she slapped him in the mouth, cutting his lip with her ring, and he, without thinking, of course, struck her back, and she, without thinking of the consequences, began to make sufficient noise to attract the neighbors and the trouble began.

Now, this might have happened to anyone, and we have never seen two more repentant souls than these two, and we are sure both have learned their lesson, and there never will be a repetition as long as they live.

OHIO

EDUCATIONAL news from the renowned Defiance College, as reported by the Cleveland *News:*

Deans and doctors of philosophy at Defiance College are taking a liking for kiddie cars. The learned profs were victorious in a scooter race with students staged as a feature of the first campus get-together of the season.

NEWS of the Noble Experiment in the Minster *Post:*

Roy Hole got hold of a brand of whiskey in Mercer county that put his teeth on edge and

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he proceeded to gnaw at the nose of John Karafit. Hole went to the home of Frank Milinski where Karafit was staying and while he was loaded up with Prohibition fire water he proceeded to pick a fuss. He made a vicious assault on Karafit and was chewing the nose of his victim when Milinski, who is the game warden, interfered. It took several hard blows on Hole's head to force him to quit gnawing at his man and when they were finally separated Karafit looked much the worse for the trouble. Hole was arrested after the scrap.

WORKINGS of the Holy Spirit in Cincinnati, as reported by the Pittsburgh *Press:*

Conscience-stricken over failure to pay ten cents on a street car fourteen years ago, a Cincinnati woman has mailed a dime to the headquarters of the company in Pittsburgh. The letter was received by R. M. Glick, secretary-treasurer of the line. It read:

"Enclosed find ten cents for carfare. About twelve or fourteen years ago, when but a child, I rode one block further than my fare called for, and having no more I could not pay it. And I must be clear before God. Yours traveling to Heaven; ye must be born again."

PENNSYLVANIA

WANT AD in the Warren *Times-Mirror:*

RESPECTABLE widow, 50, desires position as housekeeper. Very best references furnished. No trifling. Inquire 6½ Clark st.

SCIENTIFIC announcement in the eminent Pittsburgh *Courier*, organ of the Aframerican aristocracy:

AMAZING NEW DISCOVERY

WORKS IN ONE MINUTE

Be a beauty now, *tonight!* Have soft, white skin that everyone envies and admires. See your complexion turn shades lighter in the magic of a few moments.

WHITENS YOUR SKIN WITHOUT BLEACHING OR MONEY BACK

Now a wholly new way has been found—utterly without harsh, harmful bleaching. This amazing discovery far outdoes bleaching, and you get results instantly. Results must come in one minute and you must be amazed and simply delighted or it costs nothing.

Spanola—as this new discovery is called—blends the skin to creamy whiteness in one minute's massage. No waiting. You see results right in your own mirror. Skin looks far whiter and smoother than you could possibly make it in any other way. Choose the shade yourself. Make it as light as you like.

SOUTH CAROLINA

PASTOR C. E. PUETT favors the *Baptist Courier* of Greenville with a trenchant protest against a growing evil:

This writer has been of the opinion that no man should be made a D.D. until he had three qualifications. First, he should be a man of scholarship. Second, a success, and third, at least forty years of age. He has also been of the opinion that this degree ought to be conferred by a college of recognized standing. Now it has come to pass that churches have gone to conferring this degree. Since that is the case what does hinder us all from being doctors? I asked a deacon of a church that had conferred this degree in a way I shall afterwards relate what right a church had to confer it? He said didn't I know "a Baptist church has a right to do anything it wants to."

The itch of a certain preacher in a certain church for the D.D. degree led him to resort to a most unusual procedure to exact the same from the confused hands of his bewildered brethren. I do not give this as representative at all. I do not think it ever happened before and I feel it may never happen again. It was on this wise: The time had come for the preacher to resign. He prepared his resignation recounting, I am told, some of the things he had accomplished during his pastorate and adding at the close of his resignation these words or thereabouts: "In view of the good work done by Bro. ——— we do hereby confer upon him the degree of Doctor of Divinity."

Now when the pastor who prepared this handed it to the clerk and the clerk scanned it previous to public reading he was very much confused about the strange ending of said resignation. He pointed out to the deacons this strange innovation and no little excitement ensued, one after another asking the other what he knew about conferring the degree of D.D. Each answering the other that he knew absolutely nothing about it. The preacher, noting the excited movements and gesticulations of the bewildered brethren, motioned them to a secluded room and proceeded to pacify them after the following manner: "It is customary at the close of a pastorate where a good work has been done for a church to confer the degree of D.D. on the retiring pastor. There are two kinds of D.D.'s, namely, scholastic and honorary. This is merely an honorary degree and you have a perfect right to confer it." Time was getting heavy upon their hands and facing an unheard of situation and having no authority to whom they might appeal, the brethren knew not what to do, and with inward objections they outwardly acquiesced and allowed the resignation with the D.D. appended to go through together. And thus after the foregoing manner another D.D. was thrown upon the world.

I am of the opinion that great ignorance prevails about this D.D. business and that an article on how to safeguard the dignity and prestige of this degree ought to be forthcoming.

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TENNESSEE

THE REV. DR. BARKSDALE, an eminent divine of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, states his case against a fellow ecclesiastic in the *Christian Index* of Jackson:

> It's passing strange to me that he did not know what was raised for him when he was sick at the Convention last Fall. I employed a car and got two preachers to carry him home and after the Convention closed on Tuesday I went to his bedside, carried him 40c worth of fruit and told him we raised $6.25 for him on Sunday in the Convention. I asked the Bishop to take the collection. I plainly told him the Bishop started the collection with $1; Revs. Cullins, 50c; Kimbrough, 50c; Barksdale, 50c; the P. E. 50c and the public the remainder of the $6.25, plus the $2 we owed him for service, a total of $8.25. Remember now I told him (the Rev. G. W. H.). I paid the doctor $5 for a visit; $3 to get him home, $2 to send his wife back to the railroad station; 75c for medicine and 75c for a car to move Rev. G. W. H. near the church, where we could see after him. Paid out of my pocket for him, $3.25 not returned to me to this day. Some of the C. M. E.'s gave him liberally but when he got well and sent out his public thanks he thanked the Baptists and M. E.'s but failed to thank the C. M. E.'s. I am sure I told him that I was out $3.25 on him and he did not thank me, neither has he paid me. There are facts I am telling and the Lord is my witness.

VIRGINIA

TOWN news from the celebrated Winchester *Star:*

> The reel team the Friendship Fire Company plans to enter in the contests during the annual meeting of the Virginia State Firemen's Association in Lexington next week, made a very good run last night. The team made a run of 150 yards and laid 150 feet of hose in 28 seconds, which is regarded as a record of which any team may be proud. The firemen have contracted to have the Lexington Cornet Band march with them in the annual parade, which will add much to the appearance of the company. The firemen will leave Winchester next Wednesday night in motor buses and automobiles. Members who have uniforms and who do not expect to go on the trip have been urged by the captain to return the same to the engine house at once, so that others may wear the uniforms on the trip to Lexington.

WASHINGTON

BOSTON culture hits the Northwest, as revealed by a leading editorial in the Spokane *Valley Herald:*

> Eugene O'Neill's play, "Strange Interlude" shown at the American Theatre last Friday and Saturday nights may have been a great success financially as the house was completely sold out both nights, but it is doubtful if the Spokane promoters will do much bragging about it for the reason that from the standpoint of moral, spiritual and cultural values the show is a total loss and worse—it is destructive.
>
> Three of the Ten Commandments are broken with impunity and their breach glorified. Womanhood is dragged down to the level of the lower animals and the high estate of motherhood is grossly outraged.
>
> Profanity is the language of the strange family circle in this distorted vehicle which is endorsed by the Theater Guild of New York, an organization with a cloak of fine respectability whose advance agent told the Spokane Chamber of Commerce in high sounding phrases that the Guild exists to promote the highest cultural and spiritual values of the spoken drama.
>
> What a contradiction, what a monument to their bad judgment, bad taste and bad faith "Strange Interlude" is.
>
> A large number of young girls and boys, probably not one in ten of whom knew the purport of the play before seeing it, were present together to suffer the embarrassment and humiliation of the low down performance erroneously called modern and broadminded.
>
> Only mature and developed character can stand being hauled through limitless mire without injury, and when the sophisticated admit they are shocked it is clear beyond reason to subject children and young people of all ages to the severe test of trying to find a high moral purpose in such low moral rot. It's a crime against intelligence and decency.
>
> It is our opinion that a large percentage of those in the Spokane audiences experienced no thrill of enjoyment or elation but on the contrary were nauseated beyond words. Yes, "Strange Interlude" shocks! So does the bite of a venomous serpent.

WEST VIRGINIA

PUBLIC notice in the Charles Town *Farmers' Advocate:*

> An Open Letter to Our Beloved Citizens of Jefferson county, who are in love and sympathy with the present day whiskey traffic. Let me advise you to write, on a piece of pasteboard, ten words in large, plain letters, and hang it on the footboard of your bed, and when you retire at night you can read them over. These words: "If I die tonight I will go to Hell." It might cause you to repent and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and declare war on Hell's traffic. Then you can erase the tenth word and put Heaven.
>
> S. F. FRIDLEY,
> *Harpers Ferry, W. Va.*

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FIVE EL PASO WORTHIES

BY OWEN P. WHITE

When I was about fifteen the atmosphere of my home town, El Paso, Texas, which had always been thick with gun-smoke and homicidal celebrities, was considerably enriched by the sudden arrival of a new pair of citizens. One of them, John Wesley Hardin, had recently been released from the Huntsville Penitentiary and was already a great man. Twenty-three nicks on his pistol butt, each nick representing a soul sent to bliss eternal, was ample notice, even to such a gun-fighting world as I lived in, that Mr. Hardin was a bad man to fool with.

The other stranger, who came down upon us from New Mexico, was at that time entirely unknown to fame. He had thick, bushy hair and a black, droopy moustache. He was long and cadaverous, and he always wore, even in Summer, a long-tailed coat which, in addition to preserving his dignity for him, kept a curious public from commenting too freely on the condition of the seat of his trousers, worn out as they were from long sitting in an office chair waiting for clients. This man's name was Albert B. Fall. He was a good lawyer, a hard thinker, and a quiet and refined drinker. Yet no one, not even in that country where handles to names are as common as in Kentucky, ever thought of honoring him by referring to him as anything else than plain Mister.

Messrs. Hardin and Fall made their advent into our far from peaceful little community some time in the early Summer of 1895, and, as I now vividly recollect, it was only shortly thereafter that I made a little history for myself by going downtown one night, leaning my juvenile carcass against the bar in the Ruby Saloon, and keeping it there until I had acquired a jag. Of course, viewing this initial effort, as I now do, in the light of much subsequent experience, I realize that I was probably only moderately tipsy, but for reasons which will later appear, I will never forget that on that night I drank and swapped stories with such world-famous characters as Pat Garrett, the slayer of Billie the Kid; John Wesley Hardin, the greatest gun-man in Texas; John Selman, who succeeded to the title when he himself killed Mr. Hardin; George Scarborough, who later on slew Mr. Selman; and last but not least, Mr. Mannen Clements, a cousin of Mr. Hardin's, who, as an ambitious young cut-throat, already had five or six assassinations to his credit.

It is quite likely that on that night I drank too, with Albert B. Fall, for in those days his foot often polished the brass rail in the old Ruby. But as he was not then as vividly in the public eye as he has been recently, or as the other men I have named were at the time, I do not definitely recall that he was even present. In other words, Mr. Fall was not prominent enough for me to notice him. Neither, in fact, would I have given any of the other celebrities present so much as a second thought had it not been for John Wesley Hardin. The others meant nothing to me. I had known all of them for years and was entirely unimpressed by either their personalities or their records.

It was different, however, with Mr. Hardin. He was a stranger in town, he was rated as the most implacable killer in all the Southwest, and the fact that he had arrived had been brought straight home to

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me when my uncle, who was mayor of El Paso at the time, stepped up to him as he got off the train and told him that as long as he behaved himself the freedom of the city was his, but that if he began to cut up the local peace officers had instructions to unload their sawed-off shot-guns into him first and arrest him later.

In addition to this welcome John Wesley was the unknowing recipient of an even greater honor. Prior to his coming John Selman and George Scarborough, each with a dozen or more men to his credit, and each jealous of his prestige, had quarreled as to which one should have the privilege of ribbing up an argument with Mr. Hardin and taking the first crack at him.

Rumors of this quarrel had reached my youthful ears, and so that night, as these men, one after another, drifted in and out of the saloon, and as I drank with them all, I knew—and so did they—that there was blood in the air and that it wouldn't be very long until one, or two, or maybe even three of them, would die with their boots on. And the three I have mentioned, Hardin, Selman and Scarborough, did die that way; and Mannen Clements also, and likewise Pat Garrett, which makes five, but it didn't happen as anybody thought it would. Here is the story.

II

For several weeks after his arrival in El Paso, Mr. Hardin disappointed everybody by not shooting anyone or doing anything devilish. Of course he drank regularly and gambled every night, but as all of our leading business men did the same thing his conduct couldn't be held against him. Then a woman drifted into the picture and the trouble began.

Living across the Rio Grande, in Old Mexico, was a fugitive from justice named M'Rose, and living with him, to brighten his hours of exile, was a vivid blonde. The American authorities wanted Mr. M'Rose and wanted him badly, and, after he had seen her just once, John Wesley Hardin wanted the blonde. Soon he got her. Under some pretext or another Mr. M'Rose was induced to come over into El Paso one dark and stormy night. He crossed the international bridge, stepped out into the blackness of the road, paced along it for about forty yards, and then received a sudden and anonymous ovation in the shape of sixteen buck-shot.

Nobody ever knew who killed him and nobody cared. Later on John Wesley Hardin said, while drunk one night, that he had hired the job done for $250. If such was the case it is quite probable that his cousin, Mannen Clements, who once told me that he'd cut any man in two with a sawed-off shot-gun for three hundred, was the executioner. However, as Mr. M'Rose was a totally useless person the manner of his demise is of no importance to us. But the surviving blonde is of a good deal. As women of her amiability were rated socially in our town in those days, she was one who would decorate the establishment of any man who could afford to maintain her. John Wesley Hardin fell for the idea that he could do so, and he made the experiment. He brought the lovely creature across the line, installed her in gaudy lodgings, bestowed upon her informally the honorary title of Mrs. Hardin, and at once found himself swamped with bills. They were large bills too, and they accumulated faster than Mr. Hardin could win money at poker and faro. Obviously, something had to be done about it.

The situation, however, didn't seem to alarm Mr. Hardin. Many times before, during the course of his explosive career, he had been in tight places, and he knew how to get out of this one. His method was very simple. He walked into the Gem gambling hall one night at eleven o'clock, and, with the eyes of the El Paso chivalry all upon him, stepped up to a bank crap game, snatched out his gun, shoved it in to the dealer's face, scooped up the bank roll, stuffed it into his pockets, and ambled peacefully away. For this little enterprise, which netted him about $1500, nothing

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was ever done to Mr. Hardin. As they said in those days, he had the town buffaloed. Two weeks passed before he was so much as arrested for the crime. He paid his bills though, and divided what was left of the spoils of his robbery with "Mrs. Hardin." In just a few days that good lady, taking advantage of the fact that her "husband" was out of town for the day, availed herself of the opportunity to go on a bat. She went on a beaut, slapped another female in a dance-hall over the head with a six-shooter—and was promptly arrested and impolitely incarcerated in the town hoosegow by young John Selman, Jr., a constable and the only son of the Selman already referred to.

Everyone in El Paso knew that this meant a violent end for somebody. Fearing that it might be his, young John Selman skipped town and left it to his pa to face the wrath of Mr. Hardin. The old man didn't welch, even when John Wesley returned to the city, found his yellow-headed love in jail, paid her fine, sent her home, and spent the rest of the afternoon telling everybody that his next move would be to exterminate the entire Selman family.

That night at about ten o'clock I passed the Acme Saloon and there in front of it, sitting on a beer keg and smoking a cigarette, was old John.

"Hello kid," he said. "It's time you're gettin' home, ain't it?"

"I'm on my way now," I answered, "but what are you doing here?"

"Nothin'," replied the old man. "Just waitin', that's all."

I went on and had got no more than a hundred yards down the road when I heard a pistol shot. I looked back. Uncle John was no longer sitting on his beer keg. I ran for the saloon. When I got there I found him and John Wesley Hardin both inside. John had a gun in his hand, and John Wesley, stretched out on the floor and already as dead as a mackerel, had a bullet in his brain.

A few weeks later they tried John for murder and the newcomer from New Mexico, Albert B. Fall, stepped squarely into the centre of the arena. He was the attorney for the defence, and if he was going to acquit his client he certainly had his work cut out for him. It was a clear case of cold-blooded assassination. The single bullet that killed John Wesley Hardin (and my own father was the physician who conducted the inquest, and swore to the facts at the trial) had entered squarely in the centre of the *back* of his head! John Wesley was standing at the bar shaking dice for the drinks when John Selman pushed open the saloon door and shot him from behind.

Those were the undisputed facts in the case. What was this Mr. Fall going to do about it? He showed us. Still wearing his long-tailed coat and with his bushy hair sticking straight out in all directions he addressed the jury. He was eloquent; he was magisterial; he was wonderful. In language that soughed and sighed he rehearsed all the details of the killing, including many that were new to all of us. He made the members of the jury see everything exactly as he wanted them to see it. They saw Hardin standing at the bar shaking dice; they saw an innocent Selman push open the swinging door and enter the saloon; simultaneously they saw a villainous Hardin raise his head and glance into the big mirror in front of him; they saw the hand of the great killer flash to his gun-butt, and then they saw John Selman fire. Aided by his powerful nouns, adjectives and verbs they saw all these things and thus a cold-blooded assassination was turned into a clear case of self-defense.

But that wasn't enough for Mr. Fall. In order to assure a verdict for his client he thought he had to go a bit further. He did. In an eloquent closing speech he dwelt at length on the public undesirability of the deceased gun-man and argued magnificently that El Paso, instead of trying Selman for bumping him off, ought to be tendering a vote of thanks and presenting a medal. This last, unfortunately, was a mistake. The jury, which promptly ac-

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quitted Selman, would have done so anyhow. The jurors knew, without having Mr. Fall tell them, that Hardin dead was worth a whole lot more than Hardin alive. If he had only omitted that part of his address Mannen Clements, cousin of the deceased, would not have left the courtroom swearing that some day he was going to get Albert B. Fall.

III

Ten months went by. It was two o'clock in the morning, and standing in front of the bar in the Wigwam Saloon—the place wherein the magnificent Bradley brothers of Palm Beach, dealers of stud and faro, got their start in life—were our old friends, John Selman and George Scarborough. They were both tipsy and both were in bad humor; hence they were both very dangerous. A few hours later two versions of what happened were current on the street.

The most picturesque version, and the one that I, as a kid of sixteen, chose to accept, was that the men quarreled and, in order to settle their difficulties permanently, agreed to fight a duel. They stepped into the alley with some one to count for them, and stood back to back. At the count of one they walked away from each other and at the count of ten they wheeled, drew and fired. At least that is what they agreed to do, but it didn't work out exactly that way. Up to the count of ten all went well, but then, when old John Selman dropped his hand to his hip, it fell on an *empty* scabbard. Thereupon George Scarborough, not knowing he was shooting an unarmed man, fired four bullets into his adversary's body.

To this day nobody knows what became of Selman's gun. Some bystander in the barroom must have lifted it before the old man went into the alley, but Scarborough certainly had nothing to do with it. He was a clean fighter, with a fine reputation as a man, and his own statement, corroborated by a couple of willing witnesses, was all that was necessary to satisfy El Paso. As I remember it, he was not even tried for the killing.

Thus gun-man number two passed on, and, so rapidly does this tale move, number three soon followed him. It was like this: Out in Arizona a young man named Tom Capecart, who was generally spoken of by his admirers as Kid Curry, had been so industrious in the matter of robbing banks and killing cashiers that to anyone who wanted to take the trouble to go out and get him, either dead or alive, he had become an asset of considerable value. George Scarborough, needing the money, went after the Kid and never came back. With but one companion, he cut the trail of the Curry gang over in Arizona, followed it across into the mountains of Southern New Mexico, and early one morning ran head-on into the camp of the outlaws. The fight started at once and in the first exchange of compliments Scarborough was badly wounded. He crawled behind some boulders, however, and kept up the battle. All day he and his companion held off the bandits. Finally, after several men of the gang had been wounded, Kid Curry raised the siege and took his departure. Then Scarborough's comrade, who, through a whole day of shooting, had not received a scratch, went to the nearest town for help, but when he got back with it the next day it was too late. George Scarborough was dead.

Two gun-men now, out of our original five, are all that remain to be disposed of, but, as it is going to be several years before we are faced with the necessity of actually bumping them off, we may here turn aside and devote a few short paragraphs to the peaceful progress, onward and upward, of our other hero, Mr. Albert B. Fall. Mr. Fall, according to all indications, has been getting along very nicely. Following his glorious victory in the Selman case, prosperity has showered itself down upon him. His law practise, both in New Mexico and in West Texas, has picked up; his political influence has grown apace; his social standing is without blemish, and so are his

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trousers, making it no longer necessary for him to wear a long-tailed coat. Needless to add, Mr. Mannen Clements has not yet kept his threat to get the man from New Mexico. Thus "Judge" Fall—he is a judge by brevet now—still has that to look forward to. But apparently it doesn't worry him. He goes calmly on; he makes money; he gains prestige; he goes back East, remains there for a time, and upon his return astonishes El Paso by opening a magnificent suite of offices and announcing himself as the legal representative of Col. W. C. Green.

Col. Green was then our chief magnate. He was promoting the affairs of the Green-Cananea Copper Company out in Arizona, playing poker in the Ruby Saloon (except that its name had been changed to the Coney Island), and building a railroad about a thousand miles long through the northwestern part of old Mexico. In all of these activities, except possibly those indulged in at the Coney Island, Judge Fall took a prominent part. So numerous and intricate, indeed, did his interests become that he had to hire a press-agent. I know all about this press-agent: he was a good friend of mine. His name was Reynolds Coleman and after he had been on the job for some time he came to me to ask my advice.

"What's the matter with you?" I inquired when he told me he was in trouble.

"Well," said Coleman, "I've been working for Judge Fall for three months and he hasn't yet paid me a cent of salary. What would you do about it?"

"Quit," said I.

He did quit, but interesting news items about Judge Fall continued to go about the town. For instance, I recall a delightfully amusing and happily profitable episode in connection with a local street railway franchise. El Paso had already granted a charter to an Eastern concern, and that concern had already constructed and was operating an electric railway system with which the citizens of the town, all except one, were well satisfied. That one discontented soul was Albert B. Fall. So in order to placate him (and maybe also because he and his associates had placated some of the aldermen) the El Paso City Council on an historic evening presented him with a franchise which empowered him to parallel every street-car line already operating in the city.

Judge Fall was ready and waiting for that curious franchise to be granted. In the railroad yards were many carloads of ties and rails for the W. C. Green road into old Mexico, and there wasn't any reason why the Judge couldn't borrow them for a few days. He proceeded to do so. Under his direction a huge gang of men worked rapidly and all night, to the end that when day dawned on the very morning after the franchise had been granted the people of El Paso awoke to see a marvel. Along every street in the business part of the town stretched rows of ties, not buried but laid on the surface of the street, and on top of the ties lay heavy steel rails. Traffic was totally stopped and thus it remained until the company already operating saw fit to see Judge Albert B. Fall. When it did so the rails and ties were picked up and shipped on to their original destination in old Mexico. Unless I am having a pipe dream as I write this, Judge Fall once told me with his own lips, and a contented chuckle, that this little piece of business netted him a profit of $30,000.

Of course, when that sum is compared with the millions involved in the leasing of Teapot Dome it doesn't seem to amount to much, but when it and other sums similarly acquired were added to his regular income as Col. Green's representative the total was large enough to enable Judge Fall to ride around in the most gorgeous rig in El Paso and to live in the biggest house. At any rate, if it wasn't actually the biggest house it was at least the highest. He built it on the most elevated spot in El Paso and ever since then the place has been called Golden Hill, probably in commemoration of the fact that when the Green enterprises in Mexico went broke the

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colonel's legal representative didn't. He emerged from the crisis with a good deal more money than any of the creditors. And just about that time he received a rush order to come to New Mexico and participate in another murder trial.

This time it was Pat Garrett who had been killed, and the man who had the distinction of doing the job was one Wayne Brazel. Again it fell to the lot of Albert B. Fall to represent a defendant who was generally looked upon as unquestionably guilty. But was he? That was a question for the jury, not the public, to decide, and as the facts in the case were hazy anyhow, and were rendered even hazier by the unexplained failure of the only eye-witness to the shooting to appear and testify at the trial, there was only one thing the jurors could do. They had to take Brazel's word for it that he fired in self-defense and turn him loose.

In brief, the story told on the witness-stand by Brazel was as follows: On February 28, 1908, as he was riding along a lonely stretch of road a few miles out of the town of Las Cruces, he was overtaken by Pat Garrett, who, accompanied by a man named Adamson, was traveling in a buck-board. The defendant and the deceased immediately took occasion to revive an old quarrel over a lease on a ranch. The argument grew brisk and compliments were being freely exchanged when the backing strap on one of Garrett's mules came unfastened. The slayer of Billie the Kid stopped his team, got down, fixed the strap, and then, when he stepped back to the side of the buck-board, reached quickly into it, grabbed up a shot-gun and shouted:

"God damn you, if I can't get you off my land one way, I'll do it another!"

But he was too slow, or perhaps Brazel was too fast, because before Garrett could get his gun to his shoulder Brazel had jerked out his pistol and fired twice. The second shot, which caught Garrett squarely between the eyes, was wasted, for the first one had pierced his heart and he was already a dead man.

The jurors, being under oath to try the case according to the evidence, had to believe this story because it was uncontradicted. But the public didn't, and being perverse like the public sometimes is, it wanted to know and vociferously asked what had become of Adamson, the only eye-witness to the shooting, and why was it that he didn't take the stand. These questions, which Albert B. Fall probably could have answered, were not answered, and the rumor that Pat Garrett was killed as the result of a conspiracy has never died down.

To this day there are those in Las Cruces and El Paso who will tell you that a man by the name of J. B. Miller, who was later lynched in Oklahoma for his part in the murder of a Mr. Babbitt, hired Brazel to assassinate Garrett. But rumors are not facts, and as Brazel was defended by a good lawyer, who has since demonstrated that he knows how to keep damaging testimony out of the record, he was legally and lawfully acquitted.

In connection with this trial it is interesting to note that the district attorney who prosecuted Brazel while Fall defended him was Mark B. Thompson, whose name will come up again in the course of this story, and who, in every one of the Teapot Dome trials, has appeared in court as Fall's personal attorney.

IV

As our score now stands it's four down and one to go. That one, Mannen Clements, is a tough *hombre*, and as I recall the turbulent state of the El Paso atmosphere of those days, I marvel to think that, needing it as badly as he did, he wasn't killed a whole lot sooner than he was.

When we last saw this young man he was walking out of the courtroom at the close of the Selman trial profanely announcing that he was going to get Albert B. Fall. So far, of course, he hasn't done it, but in all other homicidal respects his activities have been such as to make all

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men of reasonable caution give him a wide berth.

Out of a number of similar cases that might be dug up out of Clements' record, I recall that of a traveling man who wore diamonds, carried a big roll and was foolish enough to flash the latter in our local emporiums of vice. After a few days this stranger's body, minus his money and jewelry, was found on the outskirts of the town, and as Mannen Clements had become simultaneously wealthy he was arrested for the killing. For two reasons he was acquitted of the charge. In the first place, the average El Paso juror would have been afraid to vote guilty unless he was absolutely assured that Clements would be hanged immediately, and in the second place there was really not enough direct evidence against the man to legally convict him. In the public mind, though, there was no doubt as to the facts. It was while he was out on bail awaiting trial in this case, that Mr. Clements made the remark for which I have already given him credit. I asked him one day how it felt to kill a man and he replied: "Hell kid, that don't amount to nothin'. For three hundred dollars I'd cut anybody in two with a sawed-off shot-gun."

Thus for years, always in trouble, always packing a gun or two, and, whenever he was properly steamed-up on fighting whiskey, always renewing his promise to kill Albert B. Fall, Mr. Clements walked the streets of El Paso. Twice, so I have been told by men who claimed to be eye-witnesses, he tried to keep his word.

On one occasion Mr. Fall was doing some solitary drinking in the wine-room of the Coney Island when Clements walked in, saw that his victim was alone, pulled out his gun, shoved it into the face of his enemy, and—didn't squeeze the trigger! Had he only done so, think what a difference it would have made in American history! Carl Magee of Albuquerque would never have gone on the trail of a little black bag; Teapot Dome would never have been leased to Harry Sinclair; Harry himself would never have gone to jail in Washington; the administration of Warren G. Harding would not be as a stench in the nostrils of Christian historians, and our hero, Albert B. Fall, would not have come into the Autumn of his life in a disgraced and debilitated state.

But Clements didn't shoot. A big fat man, who was our justice of the peace, stepped into the wine-room at the psychological second, and the assassination was postponed.

Mr. Clements' next effort, although he still chose the Coney Island as the scene, was made under entirely different circumstances. Mr. Fall, with some of his friends, was drinking at the bar when Clements walked into the saloon. The would-be killer was slightly drunk; he was therefore belligerent, and he wasted no time in declaring that it was now his intention to gratify his long-cherished ambition and perforate the man who had defamed his dead cousin. As a beginning he naturally jerked out his gun, but that was as far as he got. In those days in El Paso a man had to be quick to get by with a killing and Mr. Clements was probably a little too full to be as sudden as the occasion demanded. Somebody slapped his gun up in the air; two or three men threw him out in the street, and thus, once again, were Fall and Sinclair deprived of the privilege of dying as honest men.

But, except for the inconsequential fact that no one had ever accused him of being honest, it was different with Mannen Clements. Not very long after his last attempt to eliminate Mr. Fall, he walked into the Coney Island, ordered a drink, got it, and just as he was allowing it to gurgle down his throat, received a digestive pill to go with it in the shape of a bullet through his heart. Mr. Clements was killed so quickly that he never knew what hit him, or who, and remarkable to relate, although the barroom was full of men, they were all looking elsewhere when the shot was fired, so that no one saw who fired it or the pistol from which it came. All

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they were sure of, and there was the corpse on the floor to impress them with that fact, was that Mannen Clements was dead. Somebody had earned the gratitude of the community by ridding it of a chronic menace. The next morning, pursuant to a call, a meeting was held at the residence of the Hon. Albert B. Fall (please note how he had been advanced in rank) at which instructions were issued to all the town prosecuting attorneys, sheriffs, constables, etc., that no one was to be arrested for the killing of the night before. But somebody *was* arrested for it. El Paso's chief of police, feeling slighted perhaps because he had not been invited to attend the conference in the big house on Golden Hill, disregarded the wishes of the future lessor of Teapot Dome and arrested the Coney Island's handsomest and most highly esteemed bartender.

This bartender was eventually brought before the bar of justice, and there it developed that several of our leading citizens were much blinder than anyone had ever suspected them of being. The bartender was acquitted because no man saw who fired the fatal shot, and neither was any trace of the pistol from which it came ever found in the saloon.

And yet, just about three years ago I met Mr. Mark B. Thompson, Fall's attorney, on the street in El Paso and as he and I are old friends we stopped to talk things over. During the conversation I asked him who killed Mannen Clements.

"I don't know," he replied. "I wasn't there, and I won't mention any names, but if you can remember the layout of the old Coney Island I can tell you how it *might* have happened."

I assured him that I had a good memory and then, in graphic language, he did for me just what Albert B. Fall had done for the Selman jurors years before. He reconstructed the killing, and as he talked I saw that this is the way in which Mannen Clements *might* have been bumped off. Once again, familiar to me in every detail, I saw the interior of the Coney Island; standing at the bar drinking and chatting I saw a dozen or more of my old time friends and acquaintances; and standing back of the bar I saw a bartender, who had sold me many drinks, polishing glasses. I saw Mannen Clements come in through the swinging doors, walk up to the bar and order a drink; I saw the bartender set out the bottle and then pick up his white cloth and resume his glass polishing; I saw Mr. Clements pour his poison; I saw the bartender bring up something concealed in the towel that was too big to be a whiskey glass; I saw Mr. Clements raise his liquor to his lips; I heard a sudden explosion, and then a splash, as the pistol—it must have been the pistol—was dropped down into the soapy water in the sink.

Under the necromancy of Mr. Thompson's words I saw this happen just as I have described it, but nevertheless, down in the Southwest the question of who killed Mannen Clements and why remains as unsolved today as the question of who hit Billie Patterson. I think, however, that if the Hon. Albert B. Fall wanted to he could answer both questions.

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FIGARO STORMS ATHENE

BY MAURICE S. SULLIVAN

THE most inattentive patron of American barber-shops cannot have failed to notice, of late, a new dignity in the attendant shearsmen. Those who stand disengaged are not plucking at banjos, or reading a pink journal designed to appeal to policemen, or even monkeying with the radio. The latest story about the drummer in the lower berth is not being recited aloud. The man in the chair is not obliged to cry out in torment: "No! I told you once! No!" And there are many other improvements.

The reason for all this is the epochal discovery, about five years ago, that barbering is not only an art, but also a science. The great white light of revelation burst upon Figaro when a horde of houris demanding bobs crashed the door of his shop. Suddenly he felt self-conscious; inferior socially. Delicate scents, filtering through the grosser reeks of his atelier, rose to his brain and set him off on an orgy of thinking. At once prophets popped up, crying "Education! Education!" Now, all over the nation, barbers are humped over books, learning big words.

But they are barbers no longer. Early in the first semester of the Enlightenment they became aware that the old name did not do them justice. It was as if a wrassler, having acquired a license as an osteopath, should continue to call himself a wrassler. So the brainy men in the profession applied themselves to the invention of a new one. For example, Mr. Joseph De Silvis of Philadelphia, creator of the Windblown Bob, and eminent as a writer in the barbaric periodicals. Thus he put it in the *Barbers' Journal:* "The word barber has run its course. A new and more professional term must be coined. What shall it be?" At first he was hot for *beautician*, but then he favored *dermitonsor*. Meanwhile Mr. Fred W. Fitch, founder of the *Square Deal*, a magazine widely circulated in the profession, held out for *dermatician*, and the *Master Barber and Beauty Culturist*, formerly the *Master Barber*, "official organ of the Associated Master Barbers of America," proposed *chirotonsor*. Now the *Western Barber* lends aid to the *Master Barber*, and *chirotonsor* it seems likely to be. Bowing to the majority, Mr. Fitch gracefully abandons *dermatician*.

The problem of what to call the new professional suite also demanded thought. Mr. John O'Brien of Akron, O., named his a *dermatorium*, Mr. F. M. Chase of Newton, Kan., suggested *dermashop* and *dermistry*, and Mr. G. L. Miller of De Quincy, La., nominated *dermatory*. But now *chirotonsory* is in the lead. The greatest boosters for it were in California, which has always been hospitable to the tendency that makes a real estate dealer a realtor, a beauty shop girl a cosmetologist, an undertaker a mortician, and a corn doctor a podiatrist. Not Hollywood, nor Hiram Johnson, nor even the cafeteria is the State's greatest glory. According to the president of the California State Master Chirotonsors' Association, Mr. Henry S. Guio, writing in the *Western Barber*, "the national adoption of the term *chirotonsory* is the biggest feather in California's cap."

Ten years ago, if you had suggested to any barber in his right mind that before he died he might attend a university to get a better knowledge of his trade, he would

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have taken a quick look at your bumps and then yelled for Reilly the cop to call the wagon. But now, under the direction of the learned John Winter Rice, Ph.D., B.Sc., M.S., M.A., Bucknell University has instituted a course in sanitation and hygiene for barbers. Fifteen men signed up for the first term of twenty weeks. The white-coated collegians are given lectures, instruction by stereopticon slides and motion-pictures, and laboratory work, just as their coonskinned fellow students. Those who pass the examination receive certificates. Soon, according to Mr. Henry J. Oehman, president of the Master Barbers of Racine, Wis., there will be thousands of graduates, and every chirotonsor will have a coonskin coat. Thus, over the radio station WRJN, Mr. Oehman uttered his prophecy:

> Possibly some of my listeners still retain the old conception of the barber. They see him in the old environment, with the spittoon in the corner, obscene literature on the tables, dirty mirrors, unkempt barbers' uniforms, the rows of individual mugs with owners' labels prominently displayed. All these things belong to the past century. The master barbers of today are educated. There is an existing law which requires at least an eighth-grade education before any man can study the barbering profession. Very soon this will be amended to require a high-school education, and *ultimately no man will be permitted to study barbering unless he has had a college training.*

Another chirotonsor who sees into a rosy future is Mr. M. Orton Shafer of Riverside, Cal., inventor of the Haywire Bob. Here is what he has to say in the *Master Barber:*

> [Barbers] are preparing themselves by education, sponsored by the educational department of the Associated Master Barbers of America, and in time will have a professional signia as chirotonsors, and will in many cases leave the high overhead of ground floor space and go into buildings as other professionals, make appointments, and their services will be along scientific lines. . . . We will give our services as professionals and will get a price that will justify a few more luxuries than we have had in the past.

The fate that is in store for the patients of these new doctors of chirotonsic science may be guessed from these words in the *Master Barber:*

> The chirotonsor is still stumbling along asking customers what they want, and for the most part trying to give what the customer asks for. Can you beat it? . . . With this stock of information peculiar to the service the chirotonsor could step into a professional office and dictate to clients coming in. He could explain to them what they could have or ought to have, and collect a professional fee that no one would complain of. The chirotonsor really deserves to stand above either of the professions [dentistry and optometry] mentioned in comparison in this article.

Nobody, however, has gazed into the crystal ball and seen more than Mr. J. C. Shanessy, president of the Journeymen Barbers' International Union of America. Addressing the dermatonsors of Memphis, Tenn., he solemnly averred, according to the *Square Deal:*

> It is within the power of the barbers of America not only to direct the trend of public opinion, but also to elect the mayors, Governors and Senators that govern the land. The man at the barber chair shaves the leaders of his community. No better opportunity is offered any professional for influencing men of affairs than is afforded the barber profession. It is my sincere belief that, if the barbers of America will stand together, it is within their power to elect even the President of the United States. . . . A new day is about to dawn for the barber profession.

Mr. Jule Gordon, editor of the *Square Deal*, relates an incident which shows how the wind is blowing. A prominent manufacturer of barbers' supplies once told him he was "thoroughly disgusted" with the trade and had about decided to divert his business into other lines. The sales of his products had fallen off tremendously during the last five years.

"The fault is with you, not with the barber profession," Mr. Gordon replied. "The last five years have wrought a remarkable change and you have not adapted your product and policies to this change. As a matter of fact there are enough great minds within the barber profession and enough collective intelligence to lead the profession to undreamed-of heights—and I'll prove it to you."

With that Mr. Gordon pulled from a portfolio a folder containing hundreds of letters received from entrants in the *Square Deal* Prize Contest, the object of which was to find out what its readers thought of the *Square Deal*, a magazine founded by Mr. Fred W. Fitch, of the F. W. Fitch Company.

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> I spread these letters before his startled eyes and read passages that might have been written by the best minds of any industry or profession. I showed him visible and overwhelming evidence of the powers of leadership within the profession, long dormant, but now finding expression. All of this was a revelation to him. . . . Make no mistake about it—there is plenty of intelligence within the barber profession.

The winner of the $15 first prize in Mr. Fitch's contest was Mr. Wilfred Harrison. His replies to the first two questions of the contest follow:

> *Q.* What feature have you enjoyed most in this particular issue?
> *A.* Fred Fitch's Own Page. . . .
> *Q.* What features have you enjoyed most in previous issues?
> *A.* Fred Fitch's Own Page.

II

Of course, as in every great forward movement, some scoffers are encountered; low fellows who write letters to the trade papers and put derisive quotes on the word profession. They show their contempt for education by intoning the old barber school yell:

> Cut on the chin, cut on the jaw,
> Leave the face raw, raw, raw!

These Bolsheviki have received plenty of warning. Their day of doom is upon them. Already twenty-six States have license laws which set forth how much experience a man must have before he may engage in practice as a chirotonsor. These laws also guard the profession against persons of immoral, intemperate or felonious character, and prescribe the scientific standards which must be lived up to. In the more enlightened States an eighth-grade education, at the least, is required of all intending shearsmen. In Illinois, the colored brother, beginning to feel his oats and rye, is giving opposition to this eighth-grade idea. Indeed, he lately went so far as to have introduced in the Legislature a bill to repeal the entire barber law, but White Supremacy was on its toes and won out in committee by the score of 11–0.

Every up-and-coming professor of chirotonsic science now has in his possession the Standardized Barbers' Manual, originally compiled by Mr. A. B. Moler (founder of the first barber school in Christendom) and revised by the National Educational Council. As the preface states, "the fact that barbering is a profession necessitates this standardized textbook, that the students . . . may learn the theoretical, ethical, legal and scientific principles or elements of the profession in order to be skilled professional practitioners."

Quite properly the manual begins by impressing on the chirotonsor that the earliest records of barbers show that they were always the foremost men of their tribes—how gifted dermaticians ruled in ancient Asia; how highly respected the depilatory engineers were in Egypt of old; how the tonsorial art was so important in Greece that a candidate for public office was once defeated because his opponent's beard showed evidence of more scientific servicing; how the dermitonsors were so well regarded in Rome that a statue was erected to the memory of the first professor to practice there; how they reached the uttermost pinnacle of their glory as the barber-surgeons of the Middle Ages, when chirurgery and dentistry were but minor branches of their ancient art. Later, as the book records—and plainly there is a lesson in this for those who are not responding to the new educational movement—the more progressive members of the profession, as surgeons, hauled away from the stick-in-the-muds, who remained common barbers.

It is to provide an antidote for lethargy that the manual contains chapters of instruction in anatomy, electricity and chemistry as well as in honing and stropping, shaving, haircutting, ethics, hair dye, facial treatments, salesmanship and business conduct. Credit for the scientific material in the book is given to Edgar B. Wilson, D.C., Ph.C. Dr. Wilson himself was once a cutter of hair. Now, as a learned chiropractor, he is the Big Brother to the Barber, teaching him and seconding him in his scuffles with *levator labii superioris alae que nasi* and *depressor anguli oris*.

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How Dr. Wilson stands with the profession may be judged from this tribute to him by Mr. Dominick Nenna, owner of the Independent Barber College, San Diego, Cal., as recorded in the *Master Barber:*

> May I mention here the name of one of our greatest leaders in the field of Barber Science, to whom I owe a great deal of my success, if not all, and by whom I was inspired to grasp the opportunity of future barbering? This man is none but our old friend, Dr. E. B. Wilson. To him I would say: "Teach them, Doc, old boy! Keep up your good work and the reward will be great. When you are through in the East, come out West, for we need you and need you badly. Barbers are cutting hair out here for as low as fifteen cents.

In the margins of the manual, under the heading "Things to Remember," are short instructions designed to edify and inspire the student. For example:

> A sloppy mug driveth away patronage.
>
> To rattle your brush in the mug keeps your customer awake. If he wants to sleep, let him.
>
> The reward for good hair-combing is like the reward for painting a good picture. The pleasure of looking at it. Artistic temperament recognizes this.
>
> To gracefully handle linen is high art. Get the swing of spreading the chair cloth and handling the towels.
>
> A shear and comb artist has the same opportunity to display skill as does the sculptor or painter; therefore acquire skill and become famous.

A handbook of such laudable purpose would not be complete if it neglected poesy. So there is included a stanza, somewhat improved, from one of the great New England skalds:

> Tell me not in mournful numbers,
> Life is but an empty dream,
> Nor the soul is dead that slumbers,
> And we are what the barber makes us seem.

Clambering up to his new heights, the professor of chirotonsory has bumped smack into the mysterious thing called ethics. Even as those other men of science, in the law and in leechcraft, he has found that this ethics is most lamentably intertwined with the absolutely essential business of getting enough currency to keep the wolf off the Welcome mat. So it is not surprising that there is a division of opinion in the ranks about tipping. Some are violently opposed to it, but the majority seem inclined to tolerate it. When a doctor of chirotonsory, they say, exerts himself to perform a particularly skillful operation in accordance with the most advanced principles of depilatory science, it is not unethical to accept a silver offering. This offering, it is maintained, is an acknowledgment by the patient that he has received Super-Service, and it should be accepted in the spirit in which it is given.

The controversy began to sputter at Des Moines, Ia., in November, 1926, when the Associated Master Barbers of America officially condemned tipping. The resolution was introduced by Mr. F. J. Cahal, chairman of the Kansas State legislative committee. Since then he has been obliged to defend it against a multitude of critics. Thus he answers back in the *Square Deal:*

> You say doctors, lawyers, dentists all accept tips. I do not agree with you. In the first place, they charge enough for their services so that they do not have to put themselves in the same position as a porter or waiter who throws all self-respect aside and is always looking with his hand out for a measly ten or twenty-five cent tip. I cannot feature anyone employing a lawyer or doctor, paying them a fee of from ten to one hundred dollars, and then tipping them ten cents. . . . Barbering is a profession. The Supreme Court of Kansas has so ruled, and any profession must maintain a certain dignity.

But a Mr. Wallace, writing on the other side, cites a most depressing occurrence:

> A few years ago I had been reading a lot of bunk on psychology of honor, and how to attain to special dignity in whatever vocation one might follow for a livelihood. . . . I was converted to this new thought almost instanter, and . . . I refused a two-bit tip on the next day. The customer I tried it on was a very staid gentleman. His conversation was interesting, pertaining mostly to music of the operas, in which I too am quite interested. . . . As I finished my task, he proffered me twenty-five cents side money as with an assuring smile he prefaced his silver offering with "Have a smoke on me. That job made me feel like a new man." I smiled benignly as I rejoined, "I'd rather appreciate your patronage above your tip, and I trust I may have the pleasure of serving you again. . . ." That man never again entered my chair for services. I had hurt his feelings beyond repair.

The subject appears to be loading up with dynamite against the day when the entire profession will be organized and it will be possible to enforce a code of ethics on penalty of excommunication. The prob-

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lem is worthy of intensive study by the best minds the ranks of chirotonsory can produce. Obviously, if the profession is to keep on the heights to which it is now scrambling something must be done about the churl referred to by a contributor to the *Western Barber:*

> The barber who has got nerve enough to actually stick out his hand for a tip very seldom gets one and never gets the same man to work on twice. Nothing gets a business man's goat any quicker than this.

III

There is a tendency in the tonier studios to foster the belief that silence is golden; but the profession at large is by no means convinced that a doctor of chirotonsory is doing the right thing by his patients in speaking only when spoken to. It is acknowledged by all that the chirotonsor has treasures of information not available to the ordinary citizen and by making a vice of reserve he is, perhaps, losing an opportunity for Service in a really big way.

The public press has taken a hand in the attempt to solve the difficulty. Thus, the celebrated Inquiring Reporter of the Chicago *Tribune*, proceeding on the theory that five men can't be wrong, went to the Man in the Street and asked: "Do you prefer a silent or a talkative barber?" The result was very depressing. Four out of the five citizens were in favor of throttling the chirotonsor.

An ungallant editorial writer in the renowned *Leader* of Eau Claire, Wis., hints that the voluble dermatician has been discountenanced by the superior fluency of the other sex:

> The last of its old characteristics the barber-shop lost when it admitted the bobbed-hair hordes was the barber who talked faster than he clipped. . . . The theory that the old-time barber was loquacious because his patrons were good listeners suggests that the taciturn barber is the product of the feminine invasion of the tonsorial parlor. The thought should be the source of much gratification to vengeful men who in the old days were talked to death by a barber.

Despite this tendency of the newspapers to consider the issue settled, the *Square Deal* avers that so far as it is concerned the question is still an open one:

> We venture to say that the question asked by the inquiring reporter was hardly fair. The word talkative has an odious meaning. A barber may talk and not be talkative. A talkative barber is one who talks too much, and such a barber would hardly be preferred by anybody.

Finally the *Western Barber* makes it clear to the layman just why there has been a generous reduction in quantity (though not in quality) of conversation in the clinics:

> Expert observer says the barber of today isn't talking so much as the barber of ten years ago. That's easy: He's thinking more!

Since he attained to professional status, indeed, the chirotonsor has had impressed upon him that his primary purpose in life is not making money but rather Service. He has a duty toward mankind. So he has been cudgelling his brain to figure out more ways of discharging this duty, for, as the *Journeyman Barber* piously affirms: "A life of Service is a godly life."

In this field a former editor of the *Master Barber*, Mr. Henry Wever, has hit upon a pregnant idea. Mr. Wever would have the chirotonsor educate his patients to the use of perfume. In explaining his plan he pauses to say:

> I wish at this point to bring the idea home to every operator in the world that the chirotonsor is the champion of delicate differences, and the disciple of beautiful details and refinement.

To put this service over on his patient, Mr. Wever counsels, the dermatician must be tactful, because, as he warns, "the customer must not be surprised or startled by radical changes." The canny method of procedure is this: the patient should be reminded of the odors with which he comes in contact in daily life, and how anyone can smell the difference, for example, between unvarnished pine wood and walnut. From this simple beginning he should be led through the appetizing aromas of pure milk, butter, cheese, etc.

These pleasing smells, the editor recalls, ascend from things which have emerged from the interior of mammals. This fact

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naturally leads to the scientific truth that ambergris, a most desirable perfume, may be obtained only from the seat of fortitude in an indisposed whale. Similarly, other well-known scents have their origin in the hidden recesses of quadrupeds.

As the originator of this idea points out, "the only way to teach any human mind anything is to talk to it about things it already knows and mix in things which are new." The new barber, as Mr. Wever calls him—meaning the rebuilt lad who has become a chirotonsor—will do this "slowly and patiently, teaching his customer things which the customer did not know before."

That done, the patient is ripe for the sales talk. He should be given the opportunity to select a smell, because, as Mr. Wever remarks:

> A human being simply loses one chance for individual strength, strength of character, delicate enjoyment and appreciation of the possible joys of living if he neglects to associate himself with a delicate perfume of his choice.

If, in addition to getting the glow which arises from a sense of having done his duty, the chirotonsor gets a little cash, well and good. "Any increase of business that puts a few more dimes into the cash register," says Mr. Wever, "must also increase the barber's standing in the customer's estimation. Business growth always means increase of prestige as well as increase in cash results."

Another notable contribution to the field of Service is the discovery of Mr. B. O. Mitchell, a chirotonsor of Los Angeles, Cal. Under the heading, "Pet Behind the Ears," in the *Western Barber*, he writes:

> If the subject is in an irritable frame of mind, he is nervous and unable to remain still while being shaved. This is a bad condition and should be remedied. By stepping behind the man after he has seated himself comfortably in a chair, and moving your fingers in a circular movement around the main facial nerves that lay just under the ears he is soon relaxed and settled, ready for the clippers or the razor.

Mr. Mitchell adds that he has found this service "pleasing to practically all of my customers"; but he neglects to record, clinically, the reactions of those patients who were not pleased.

All these may seem to be minor matters, but they are the little touches which make the difference between the barber and the chirotonsor. The really big wallop for Service, however, is put across in Look Well Week. This Look Well Week is not to be compared with Eat More Bran Week, National Sauerkraut Week, Be Kind to Your Husband Week and similar inventions, for all of them are manifestly money-getting devices. The object of Look Well Week is Service alone.

To begin with, a slogan had to be manufactured, because it is well known that little can be done in this Republic without a slogan. The British brothers have what they probably consider a slogan and they have put up $50,000 to get it across. It is, however, crude and brusque: "Get Your Hair Cut!" The free-born American citizen would paste in the eye any practitioner who should be so devoid of tact as to try such an insult on him. Here a craftier and more elegant refrain for the pibroch was devised: "It Pays to Look Well."

Just before the Third Annual Look Well Week, in the Summer of 1929, the *Master Barber* issued its final preparatory message:

> To our everyday patrons we are going to impress the lesson of "It Pays to Look Well." In the hands of the barber rests the personal appearance of the population. Sometimes our patrons forget this. It is our privilege and our duty, as their caretakers, to remind them of the advantages of keeping their exterior in tune with their higher personalities. It is up to us, and our profession only, to help our patrons bring out the best that is in them. . . . No higher duty, no more sacred privilege, exists, and Look Well Week is for the simple purpose of spreading the truth of this.

But, the writer warns, the public will not know it unless the chirotonsors deliver their message. The way to do it, he says, is to advertise Look Well Week and advertise it "along the lines indicated." Besides the use of posters, newspapers, theatre programmes and direct mail, one of the lines thus indicated is free haircuts for orphans. Throughout the land that week the big heart that beats in the bosom of the chiro-

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tonsor became as visible as if it lay pounding on his vest. How many orphans received free haircuts will, perhaps, never be known, but it is certain that multitudes were placed on the road to fortune, as is evident from this in the *Master Barber:*

> We are going to start the children of the nation on the right road in life. Before they become older and set in slipshod ways, we are going to instruct them in the value of neatness, orderliness, attention to personal detail. In this way they will learn that like begets like, and that the good things of life come to those who look as though they were accustomed to them.

On the steppes of Kansas, where, according to the *Barbers' Journal*, barbers believe in getting together and doing things right, the members of the Master Barbers' Association of Junction City, Fort Riley and Milford motored to the Rebekah-Odd Fellows Home at Eureka Lake. Sixty-six children received chirotonsic attention, and eighty-two old men got both haircuts and shaves. From one end of the country to the other reports poured in of similar feats of Service performed by the depilatory engineers. Millions of free Americans, to use a phrase of the *Barbers' Journal*, were made "barber shop conscious."

Of course it was unavoidable that a good deal of free newspaper publicity should follow the haircuts. In fact, the correspondents of the chirotonsic gazettes seemed to over-emphasize the importance of this phase of the Service rendered. But if, after so much publicity, receipts in the tonsoria increased, it only goes to show that the virtuous do not always have to wait for a better world to get their well-earned reward.

There seems to be more than a hint of that in the following stanzas from a poem by Mr. Jack Carter of Saginaw, Mich., printed in the *Square Deal:*

> "It Pays to Look Well" in the morning light;
> "It Pays to Look Well" at high noon bright;
> "It Pays to Look Well" as evening doth loom;
> To follow this rule each day is a boon.
>
> In this great old world of conflict and strife,
> Where we battle each day for gain and life,
> The winners have proved this slogan old
> "It Pays to Look Well" opened wide gates of gold.

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MORE TALES FROM OKLAHOMA

BY GEORGE MILBURN

Yellow Paint

When news that the armistice had been signed reached our town Mayor Esterbrook proclaimed a special holiday. All the merchants signed an agreement to close their stores, the firebell rang all day long and there was a celebration. Fords drove up and down Broadway tooting their horns and a bunch of men who had been exempt from the draft got up on the roofs of the three-story buildings on the west side of Broadway and began to shoot off firearms. Birdshot hailed down on the shingle roof of the Kentucky Colonel Hotel that whole afternoon.

Along toward night some of the farmers who had come to town that day without knowing that it was going to be a holiday began to want to get their goods and get back home. But all the stores were closed, and it looked as if they would have to drive back home and come back to town the next day to do their buying.

Some of the farmers had come long distances, seven, ten and fifteen miles. Some of them were out of food at home. Four or five of these went down to Old Man Farnum's house and asked him if he wouldn't open his store so that they could get some of the things they had to have, like kerosene and dry salt meat and compound lard and coffee.

Old Man Farnum called himself "The Square Deal Merchant" and he ran a general merchandise store on the east side of Broadway which he called "The Old Ironclad." He called it that because its framework was covered with galvanized sheet-iron pressed in imitation of imitation cut-stone concrete blocks.

Old Man Farnum had a wide reputation for honesty, but he had some queer ways. He never would advertise in the *Weekly Recorder*, always saying that a satisfied customer was the best advertisement. He never carried any fancy groceries like most of the other stores in town, but only staples.

In the general merchandise part of his store, however, he allowed his fancy to wander and he would sometimes stock things he knew, in reason, he couldn't sell. He seemed to buy such things because they were what he would have liked when he was a child. Once he got two dozen tambourines. He kept them on his shelves for years. Another time he got a lot of little bisque shepherdesses which he finally gave away as premiums.

He was very proud, and even though he had gray hair he walked very straight and he would not stand for anyone calling him Old Man to his face. Once he ordered a farmer out of his store for calling him Grandpap.

Well, Old Man Farnum told the farmers who came to him that he absolutely couldn't sell them any goods that day, because he had signed an agreement to close up. He saw the fix they were in, though, and they persuaded him so earnestly that he finally agreed to accommodate them by opening up the back end of his store.

Ellis Grice, the United States marshal in our town, came up the back alley just as Old Man Farnum was helping a farmer put some goods in his wagon. Ellis was an

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old outlaw hunter. He claimed to have been the man who captured Cherokee Bill, and Mrs. Grice boasted that she sewed the hood they hanged Cherokee Bill in.

Ellis came over to where some men were sitting in front of the De Luxe Barber Shop talking about how sorry they were they hadn't been in the war and about how glad they were it was over.

"Old Man Farnum has opened up his store and is selling goods out the back door," Ellis said.

"And it Armistice Day, too!" someone said.

"That old man ain't got no respect for nothing."

"He ought to have someone go tell him the kind of a dirty slacker he is," Hart Summers said.

"They ought to paint his storefront yellow," said Clarence Everts, a boy who had been in the last draft, but who hadn't been called.

"If someone will paint it, I'll pay for the paint," said Ellis Grice.

The next morning Old Man Farnum got down to his store at daylight, as was his custom. When he opened the front doors he felt the wet paint on his hand. He struck a match and then he could see that the whole front of his store, glass windows and all, was covered with a heavy coat of yellow paint.

Old Man Farnum set to work with rags and kerosene to clean the paint off before anybody else got up and about. But the more kerosene he would put on the more the paint would run, and by broad day the windows were still smeared with yellow, and the paint-kerosene mixture was running across the sidewalk in little rivulets. Finally the old man hired a couple of nigger boys to help him and by noon they got nearly all the paint cleaned off.

The old man's pride was deeply wounded. One of his sons, Newton, a gawky, six-foot boy who used to clerk in the store, had died of influenza in training camp. His other son, Harry, later turned up at the United States Veterans' Hospital in Muskogee with his arms and the lower half of his face blown off.

Old Man Farnum was cut up pretty badly to think that they had painted his storefront yellow just as they had painted Norden's grocery and Fraunhoffer's bakery and Oberchain's butcher shop earlier in the war. He began to look for sympathy among the farmers who were his customers, explaining to them the circumstances over and over again. But most of them were men who didn't want to take issue with general opinion, so they would listen, shaking their heads and making little clicks with their tongues and not saying anything. When two of the farmers for whom the old man had opened the back of his store that afternoon of the first Armistice Day started trading at another store to escape his explanations, Old Man Farnum's hurt changed to slow-burning anger.

A day or two after the painting news had come that the first Armistice Day had been a fake, and that the armistice had not been signed that day at all.

Old Man Farnum used to stand for hours in the front part of "The Ironclad" with his hands pressed firmly down on a counter, gazing out of the front window. His face would set in hard, grim lines and his jaw muscles would twitch.

He stopped explaining to people after a few months. His trade had drifted away until only a few old customers and some sympathetic German farmers were left.

Ellis Grice, the United States marshal, used to walk past "The Ironclad" two or three times a day. He had to go past in order to get to the Justice of the Peace's offices next door.

One day it got to Old Man Farnum that Ellis had bought the yellow paint used to paint his storefront. Milan Decker, a boy who worked at the Minnetonka Lumber Company, where the paint was bought, was going with a German farmer's daughter named Margarete Bieberdorf. Margarete told her father, and Bieberdorf came in and told Old Man Farnum.

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The old storekeeper waited all that day for Ellis, but Ellis did not come past. The next morning about nine o'clock, however, Ellis came hurrying by with a kind of pacing step he had.

"Good morning, Captain Nightrider," said Old Man Farnum with his softest drawl. He stepped out of his store door and blocked Ellis' way.

"Howdy, Mr. Farnum, howdy," said Ellis. He tried to walk around.

"Wait a minute, Captain Nightrider. I owe you for a little painting job you did for me here last Fall."

"Why, Mr. Farnum—" began Ellis, but he never finished that sentence.

Old Man Farnum brought up the soda-water bottle he had been gripping in his right hand, and he bashed Ellis across the face with it. The bottle shattered and the lower half of it tinkled on the cement sidewalk. Ellis' face spouted blood. His nose bulged curiously.

Old Man Farnum looked at him for a minute. Then he tossed the bloody bottle neck he was holding into the street and went back into his store.

Ellis Grice, the old outlaw hunter, stood there with his face a bloody blur. He began to weep, saying, "I never done it, Mr. Farnum! I never done it! Anyone who says I done it is a goddam liar, Mr. Farnum."

Finally he turned around, still weeping, and went off down the street to Doc Boyd's office, sobbing over and over, "Anybody will tell you I never done it, Mr. Farnum!"

It took Doc Boyd quite a while to get the glass picked out of Ellis' face, and his nose never did get set straight again.

II

Looie McKindricks

Looie McKindricks was weak-minded. His mother was one of the McKindricks girls who got ruined along about 1905, in the early days. People said that his father was Charley Wheeler, the town-site man, because Looie had red hair like Charley's. But Herschal Gunther said that the McKindricks girl never could prove that Charley Wheeler was Looie's papa.

Looie's mother worked in the telephone office and sent her boy to grade school. When he got in the fourth grade Miss Mabel Roberts, a pretty girl from the State university, was his teacher. After he had been in the fourth grade two years she passed Looie on to the fifth out of kindness. But Looie had taken such a strong liking to Miss Roberts he wouldn't leave the fourth. Every morning the fifth grade teacher would have to come and drag Looie to the right room. After a while she got tired of this and let him stay in the fourth. Looie had been in the fourth grade four years when Miss Roberts got married. He quit school then.

He was a young man by this time. His huge head was covered with a mat of bright red hair. Some school bully had knocked out all his front teeth and his mouth was sunken and twisted like an old man's. His eyes, bathed in rheum, would get cocked at painful angles, giving his face a grotesquely coy expression.

Looie was satisfied with his appearance. For a long time no misgivings as to his attractiveness to women ever entered his mind.

"Women are funny," he told a bunch in the Economy Drug Store one night. "When they get crazy about you you can't do nothing with them. Women sure do get me bothered."

The first thing he did after leaving school was to get a job on the railroad section gang and buy a set of shining gold teeth. He was afraid of automobiles, so, instead of buying a Ford, he saved his money and got a single-footing bay mare and a buggy with a fringed, yellow parasol top.

Looie began courting Lulu Sampler, a farmer's daughter north of town. Lulu was a big, red-faced girl with breasts like melons and a lap like an over-stuffed rocker. She had always been timid and self-conscious and Looie's attentions flattered her somewhat. But her parents and

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friends teased her so much about him that it made her uneasy to have him around.

One Thursday this item appeared in the Sunnyside Tatler column of the *Weekly Recorder's* country correspondence section:

> Here lately every Sunday afternoon a certain yellow-topped buggy and bay mare is seen hitched up out in the shade of Sampler's big catalpa tree. When is the wedding bells going to ring out, Lulu?

The next Sunday Lulu met Looie at the front door as he came around from hitching. Timidity made her brutal.

"Looie, you bawl the jack on out of here! I ain't wanting you around here, and I ain't aiming to have you come to see me no more. You ain't got half sense. You ought to know whur you ain't welcome, but if I got to tell you, well I'll tell you. Get on away from here right now!"

The hired hand was sitting in the shade of the catalpa tree when Looie came out and untied his horse and climbed in his buggy.

"You ain't leaving a-ready, air you, Looie?" said the farmhand.

"You're dang right I'm leaving," said Looie. "I allow I got enough sense to know whur I ain't wanted. Nobody don't have to knock me down with a hint."

III

The Butcher, the Baker,——

All the other girls at high-school made fun of Olla Obenchain because she was so old-fashioned. She wore her hair and her dresses long and she carried her books to school in an oilcloth satchel.

But even if she was old-fashioned, Olla was a handsome girl. She had large black eyes and wavy black hair and her hips were those of a nymph by Rubens. She was a little larger boned than most of the girls going to that school.

Olla's father owned the White Front Meat Market. He was a heavy German and his face always looked as though he had washed in beef blood. He used to drink it, in fact, hot from the steer. He had huge moustaches and he was a good butcher.

During the War it got around that he had a picture of the Kaiser hanging up in his parlor, and the patriots in our town came very near to lynching him. They had him tied to the back of a Ford truck and were dragging him through the streets when the officers rescued him. Ellis Grice, the United States marshal, took him to the Federal jail at Muskogee, where the butcher proved that the picture was a tintype of his father, taken back in Germany years before.

They let Old Man Obenchain go, but after that he never would have much to do with the people in our town. He was the only good meat-cutter there, though, and people kept on trading with him.

Hank Fraunhoffer, who owned the Purity Bakery, was courting Olla. He was a stolid bachelor about forty years old. Old Man Obenchain liked Hank fairly well because he was the only eligible German in town for Olla.

Olla liked Hank, too, because she was a dutiful girl. When the other girls were exchanging confidences she would tell them about Hank, and then they would go off and have a good laugh about Olla and her forty-year-old beau.

Hank played the cornet in the Campbellite orchestra on Sundays. He always took Olla to the lawn socials. Sometimes he would take her to the picture show on Saturday night. But usually they sat out on Obenchain's front porch, or in the Obenchain parlor.

Then Olla decided to get her hair bobbed like all the other girls at high-school. Her father would not hear of her having her beautiful long hair cut off. He raged and swore and said he would turn any daughter of his out who would so brand herself as a streetwalker.

Olla waited for a while and then in the Spring some of the other girls got to persuading her and she went with them to the barbershop and got her hair cut off.

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That afternoon, when Olla came from school, as soon as her mother saw her bobbed hair she began weeping and talking in German. Before Old Man Obenchain came home that night, Mrs. Obenchain tried to get Olla to hide, but Olla would not. She was determined to see it through with her father.

He came into the kitchen. There she stood in the lamplight with her bobbed hair. When he first saw her he didn't recognize her. She spoke to him softly and came over and put her hands on his shoulders.

As soon as he saw who it was he began to berate her in a shameful manner. All the neighbors could hear Old Man Obenchain cursing Olla.

He drove her out of the house that night and threw her clothes after her. Olla had about a hundred dollars in the bank that she had earned the Winter before taking subscriptions for women's magazines and doing fancy needlework. She went to the Economy Drug Store and Doc Bascombe raised enough money to cash a check for her that night.

She left on the midnight train to go to one of her married sisters who lived in Amarillo, Texas. On the train she discovered that her bobbed hair lent her an attraction for young men she had never had before.

A young brakeman passing through the day coach that night saw her and fetched her a pillow. She was lovely there with her pale face turned up and her breasts drawn taut, lying back in the dim, mellow half-light of the day coach's oil lamps. They started talking and after an hour or so he proposed to her. They got married at the next railroad junction.

When Hank Fraunhoffer heard what had happened, he scraped the pie dough out from between his fingers and said, "She oughtn't to of done that. Her old man was too rash, but she oughtn't to of done that. She didn't have to run off with no brakeman. Even if she did get her hair cut off, I would of married her anyway."

IV

Gerald Lee Cobb

Gerald Lee Cobb was such a pretty boy he could have passed for a girl. When he graduated from high-school his class voted him the high-school Apollo. He was tall and lithe and his hair was like frayed new rope. Blushes played under his smooth skin.

Gerald wasn't dumb, either, like most pretty boys. He won the W. C. T. U. essay prize that same year with his theme, "Would Jesus Have Smoked Cigarettes?" He wasn't much good at football, but at the county track meet he won the vaulting championship, setting a record of 11 feet 9½ inches.

Gerald Lee Cobb was always an intensely religious boy. He was an active church worker, and for a time he was president of our local Epworth League. When he graduated from high-school Old Man Cobb, who ran the Kentucky Colonel Hotel, sent him away to the Garrett Bible Institute at Evanston, Ill.

"I ain't a churchgoing man, myself," said Old Man Cobb, "but I'm in favor of religion, and I'll be goddamned if I ain't going to give that boy the best religious education money can buy."

Gerald's mother was religious, if Old Man Cobb wasn't. Mrs. Cobb was a leader in the M. E. Church South. She was the one who decided him on becoming a minister.

Mrs. Cobb was an aristocrat. She had been a Tennessee Jackson before her marriage to Old Man Cobb. She was certainly proud of Gerald. She used to take his letters with her to United Daughters of the Confederacy meetings and read them to the other women.

Gerald Lee Cobb had been away to the Bible Institute for two years when the country went to war. He was a conscientious objector. The government herded him to a detention camp some place in Kansas and kept him in a barbedwire stockade for the duration of the war.

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Gerald was a pretty boy and the other prisoners, shut up like that, must have treated him with some brutality. He never was right in the head after the war.

He came back to our town and soon after that he began "seeking" in the Holy Roller church. This was in direct opposition to his mother's wishes, since Mrs. Cobb was an aristocrat and a good South Methodist. She hated the Holy Rollers like poison.

"I haven't got no objection to people worshiping God anyway they please," Mrs. Cobb said, "but them Holy Rollers are plumb ridiculous. Calling themselves the Apostles of Christ! And all that gibberish about the Unknown Tongue, yelling and capering around like niggers! They're just poor white trash and they don't know how to act."

In spite of that, Gerald felt the Pentecostal fire one night. He went on and joined the Holy Rollers. He began to emulate Jesus. He gave away all the good clothes he had left over from college and went about in rags. He refused to have his hair cut and he grew a thin blond beard. He would go off on long evangelical trips over in Arkansas, and sometimes he would be away months without his family knowing where he was.

Old Lady Cobb stopped saying anything to him. She never opened her head to anyone about the way her son, of whom she had been so proud, had turned out. Only occasionally she would go out to the fair grounds where, after their meeting-house burned, the Holy Rollers had built an arbor of oak boughs.

Mrs. Cobb would never go inside the arbor and sit down. She would stand on the outer edge in the dark, watching the Holy Rollers carry on in their lantern-lit enclosure. Sometimes Gerald would jig until he fainted. All the others would bend over him, exhorting him. He would lie there in the dust, slavering and rolling up the whites of his eyes.

All the time the Holy Rollers were singing and shouting and jumping and talking in the Unknown Tongue and rolling on the ground, Mrs. Cobb would keep repeating, loud enough for the spectators around her to hear, "The dirty hogs! Oh, to think that a son of mine could be such a filthy beast! Oh what dirty hogs!"

And when there would come a lull in the hullabaloo, the old woman would stand there very straight with her arms folded and go on muttering, "The dirty hogs! The vile beasts! Oh, the shame of it, the dirty swine!"

V

Myrtle Birchett

Jim Birchett was having trouble with his daughter, Myrtle. Within a few months she had changed from a lanky, knock-kneed school-girl with bristling pigtails to a pretty woman. She had read in a magazine called *True Romances* that this was a Flapper Age and she wanted to do all she could to keep up with the times. She was getting wild and Jim didn't know how to curb her.

Myrtle was always sending off to mail-order houses to buy fancy clothes. She made her own money as office girl for Dr. Boyd and Jim couldn't make her stop spending it foolishly. One day he went to the postoffice and asked the postmaster not to write any more money-orders for her. He started telling the postmaster about the clothes Myrtle had been getting.

"I wish you could see what that girl has been wearing for underclothes," Jim told the postmaster. "A little strip of pink cloth to go around up here, and a pair of little short drawers that wouldn't wad a shotgun." As an afterthought, he said quickly, "A-course I wouldn't 'a' knowed she had 'em if I hadn't seed 'em hanging on the line."

Myrtle wasn't having any trouble in attracting attention. She would go switching down the street on Saturday night and in her wake there would be teethy whistles and smacking lips. As she passed the Bruns-

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wick Pool Hall she would hear the boys sitting on the curb murmur, "Uh-hum!" "Hot dam!" and "W'up, there, whoa up!" Myrtle didn't mind. She liked it. She would shake her head and go her way smiling.

Sunday nights she would go to the Baptist church. Her parents didn't always go Sunday nights, since they had hard work to do early the next day. On the nights her old folks weren't there, Myrtle would sit in the back of the church and giggle and write notes in her song-book to pass back to the boys sitting behind her.

One Sunday night the Reverend Sweazy, after reading his text, gripped the sides of the pulpit with his two hands, looked out over his congregation, and said solemnly, "Shall we pray?"

Myrtle said, "No!" in a low voice, but she said it louder than she intended to and everyone in the church heard her. The boys sitting back of her got to giggling so much that R. T. Sampler, one of the deacons, came back and asked them all to leave. That was before the Baptists got their new Wilton carpets. Myrtle clacked her high heels so hard in the aisle that the Reverend Sweazy had to stop his praying until she got out of the door.

Myrtle Birchett had a quick tongue in her head for a girl of her age. Once she bought some striped silk hose. The stripes spiraled around and around up her legs until they disappeared beyond the fringed hem of her short skirt. Hose of that kind caused the boys to whistle more than ever when she passed.

One afternoon she was walking home from work and as she passed the Ford Garage, Speedy Scoggins, the proprietor, was standing out in front. Speedy had been married about a year. He got his wife in Red Arrow, a town about eleven miles to the north.

As Myrtle passed, Speedy said, "Say, girlie, can you tell me how far up them stripes on your stockings goes?"

"No," said Myrtle, "but I know a man from Red Arrow who can tell you how far up they'd go on your wife."

VI

The Baptist Christmas Tree

The Baptists finished up their new brick church in the Fall of the year and they thought it would be nice to have a Christmas tree. They hadn't had one for years, because they hadn't been very proud of their old frame church. This year they had the most imposing house of God in town and they were anxious to have visiting congregations in to see their bright new Wilton carpets and their freshly varnished golden oak pews.

They got a huge tree, a twenty-foot fir. It was beautifully decorated. But the Baptists' Yuletide arrangements were ill-omened from the start. To begin with, the new baptistry was directly under the rostrum on which the tree was erected. Someone thoughtlessly left the trap door to the baptistry open and when Mrs. R. T. Sampler stepped off a stepladder to get another cranberry string she fell through. There wasn't any water in the baptistry and that was good, but it was six feet to the concrete bottom and that was bad. Mrs. Sampler was unable to act the part of the Virgin in the Nativity tableau that night.

Miss Naydine Fritts had the first number on the programme, a solo, "In the Garden." She had got to the part: "And the voice I hear, Falling on my ear," when a candle on the fir branch under which she was singing dripped hot paraffin down the back of her neck. Her solo ended in hysteric shrieks.

The entertainment committee wasn't willing to admit that the affair had got off to a hopeless start, not that early in the evening, anyway, and, against his wishes, they attempted to push on the rostrum little Junior Gregg. Junior Gregg's recitation did appear next on the mimeographed programme, but he had been completely unnerved by his predecessor's unfortunate experience and his howls outdid even Miss Fritt's piercing soprano. The time had come for Santy Claus to arrive before the

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entertainment committee gave Junior up.

The Santy Claus had been waiting outside in the cold, and, without getting the proper signal, he came on inside to get warm. Once he appeared at the doors in the back of the church it was impossible to go on with the programme.

Everyone, except the small children, recognized the Baptist Santy Claus as Shorty Fletcher. Shorty shined shoes at the Brunswick Pool Hall, and he was widely known as a sinner. But he looked like Santy Claus with his pudgy cheeks and his gelatinous pot belly and his grizzled dewlaps. Shorty unquestionably had the best physical, if not the best spiritual, equipment for the part, and the Baptists had been eager to have everything perfect that year.

Shorty came stamping down the aisle in his red muslin suit and his goat's-hair whiskers, making a great racket with a cowbell and frightening the children into convulsions with his gruff greetings. The church echoed with the screams of the young ones and it looked as if the Baptists' Christmas tree was going to be a success after all.

As Santy Claus reached the end of the aisle nearest the Christmas tree, little Junior Gregg, who had got over his stage fright by now, toddled up to him. Shorty stooped over and picked the little boy up. Junior grabbed hold of Shorty's false whiskers and began yanking on them. Instead of having the whiskers fastened to his ears with wire, Shorty had stuck them on his face with gum arabic. The little boy's tugs were pulling big patches of skin off Shorty's face. He lost patience.

"Why, you goddam little brat!" he said, and dropped Junior Gregg to the floor. Mrs. Gregg came forward and blessed Shorty out right there before everyone. Shorty left for the drug store to get his face attended to. The Reverend Sweazy had to hand out the presents.

The evening wasn't over yet.

There had been a long rivalry between the two Higgenbotham girls and the oldest Pennick girl about playing the piano at Sunday-school. Usually, the first one who got there played it, but this was an unsatisfactory arrangement and it had occasioned many bitter words.

Sam Higgenbotham had had a couple of drinks that Christmas Eve and he had been standing, with painful solemnity, in the center of the church. His wife and daughters were on both sides of him and he had been keeping his lips closed tightly all evening to prevent them smelling his liquor.

The Reverend Sweazy called out the names of the two Higgenbotham girls and they both went forward to receive a large box done up in red tissue paper and tied with a tinsel cord.

The Higgenbotham girls had already received all the gifts that they had been expecting that Christmas and they were curious about the contents of the large box. They tore the wrapper off right there in front of everyone and found that the box was filled with corncobs.

"That Pennick girl sent that! That Pennick girl sent that!" Mrs. Higgenbotham began repeating in an excited whisper.

Sam Higgenbotham lost all restraint. His liquor turned him nasty. He seized the box and began hurling corncobs at everyone in the church.

When the Holy Rollers heard of the Baptists' Christmas celebration they said that it had been a visitation from God. The Holy Rollers always did believe that the Baptists had burned down their meeting house across the street. The Holy Rollers used to make so much noise over there shouting and singing that the Baptists couldn't hear their own sermon.

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LANGUAGE

BY FRANCES M. FROST

THIS is a country of little rivers—
Dog river, Mississquoi, Otter creek—
Slicing villages with gold at sunrise,
Looping them with silver on yellow afternoons,
Putting them to sleep with cloud-purple and mountain-purple at dusk.
This is a country of small rivers running north and west—
Winooski, Lamoille, Ottoqueechee;
And the Connecticut going south and keeping the maples of Vermont
From burning with the maples of New Hampshire.
Apple trees on a slope say what a man cannot say
And ask questions a man cannot ask,
Knowing he will not be answered.
A grindstone under apple trees by a white house,
Old wagons under apple trees by a deserted barn,
A scythe hung in the low crotch of an apple tree east of a rocky hill—
These are the stunted speech of a country
Slow to live and equally slow to die.
Stone walls in the South,
Piled along hill-ridges and through the woods,
Stone walls up as far as Dorset and Chelsea.
Split-rail fences in the North,
Zigzagging between fields,
Running beside the roads.
Barbed-wire fences in the North, for pastures,
Barbed-wire for hay-fields and river-lots.
In the North we leave the stones where they grew . . .
Wetly out of brook bottoms,
Jagged and dark out of the hills.
Stone walls, fences, rivers, apple trees—
These speak of a slow country,
Of white-spired villages between two hills
And the loves and hates and passions between two hills.
These talk of abandoned farms and abandoned lives
And of men who ask no questions of the earth,
Knowing earth will not answer.
Stone walls, rivers, fences, apple trees—
These are the language of a slow country,
The curious speech of a rock-bitten,
Inarticulate heart.

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THE ARTS AND SCIENCES

Military Science

THE TRAINING OF SOLDIERS

By Arlington B. Conway

Drill, at which the soldier spends so many of the hours devoted to his training, is primarily intended to make it possible to move large bodies of men rapidly and with precision from one place to another, and to get them into formations suitable for the use of their weapons. Simultaneous movements of men in the mass are spectacular, and the proprietors of armies have always gratified their vanity by making their soldiers show off their paces before them and the populace. Hence the cancerous growth of ceremonial drill, which every military reformer has found to take up much time which should be devoted to rational training.

But drill generally, even such excrescences as the goose-step, has also an important psychological effect on the soldier. He becomes accustomed to move as a unit in a mass, and knows that when certain commands are given every other unit of the mass will move in a definite way, and that he can count on this happening. He knows that all the individuals who compose his battalion will act in common to achieve some desired result. Accustomed to this phenomenon on the parade-ground, the men of the battalion will coöperate to a common end on the battlefield. Thus well-drilled infantry are always superior in cohesion to others not so well drilled, irrespective of the quality of the men. As an officer in the Federal Army once observed, in explaining the difference in conduct of the regulars and the militia after the first battle of Bull Run, "the trained soldier feels himself safe in the ranks, and unsafe out of them." Unfortunately, now that soldiers do not fight in closed ranks, the habit of mind formed by barrack-square drill is not so useful as it was formerly, though the effect is still considerable.

The soldier's life is minutely regulated from the time he is roused by the woeful notes of reveille until the bugle blows "Lights Out." It is only grudgingly that he is allowed out of barracks, to such freedom as the obligation to wear uniform leaves him, for it is generally considered that he will be sure to utilize his liberty in rendering himself militarily inefficient by excess in stimulants, or by dalliance with insanitary females. Severe punishments are provided to convince him that the mass of regulations under which he lives are made to be obeyed. He is made to salute every officer he sees, in acknowledgment of the fact that the officer has been placed in authority over him.

As an offset to these disadvantages, he used to be given a gaudy uniform (since the war khaki has replaced it) and taught to wear it in a jaunty way, and he was furthermore informed, by popular lore, that this would make him highly desirable in the eyes of many women, and envied by other, drabber, men. Also, in return for docilely obeying orders, he was and is entirely freed from the necessity of taking thought for the morrow: his superiors do his thinking for him.

This traditional training of the soldier produced men notoriously helpless in the absence of orders or leaders, and has always aroused indignation among democrats and others who take an exalted view of the importance of the individual. In the past the general officers responsible for it took no notice of these plaints, beyond an occasional fit of apoplexy, but now military necessity has forced on them the conviction that something must supplement

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the old system. They say that while the soldier must still be disciplined, initiative is also necessary. When there is anyone to give orders, the soldier must never think of questioning them, but when, as in the crisis of a battle, leaders have been killed off, or are too far away to direct him, then he must be capable of acting reasonably by himself.

The regimental officer, whose principal occupation in peace is supposed to be the training of his men, is thus faced with the problem of producing a type of warrior who will measure up to the general's idea of what a disciplined soldier should be, and is yet as full of initiative and the offensive spirit as an automobile salesman or a book agent. Now, most regimental officers, as average human beings, are incapable of original thought. They know the traditional method of training for discipline, but no one has ever told them how to go about training for initiative, so it is not astonishing that they take the easier way, and spend most of their time in teaching their troops how to march in line, salute smartly, and hit a bullseye. Meanwhile, superior officers often work on the generalization that a unit which is good at close-order drill and smart in turn-out will be good and smart at other duties, and so, at inspection time, they judge by this criterion. And so the private soldier's initiative is neglected.

As a matter of fact, the mental characteristics of the average man in the ranks seem likely to doom to failure any attempt to develop initiative wholesale. The majority of private soldiers, whether conscripts or such volunteers as appear in peace time in the American or British armies, come from the classes that are unaccustomed to lead, or even to plan their own acts. How many of these men in civil life need to make independent decisions? The mechanic, laborer or factory hand does as his foreman tells him; the farmer follows a routine sanctified by the practice of his forebears. Hardly any of the lower orders of mankind do their work without an overseer, and, in civil life, as that overseer is not likely to be suddenly removed by wounds or death, it is unnecessary to train them to carry on without him.

If, say, 75% of intelligent men could be recruited, would they make ideal infantry soldiers, and carry all before them? The answer, I think, is no, for an intelligent man condemned to fight as the infantryman of today is expected to fight would soon be driven to mutiny or despair. All the survivors of the Great War who have turned scribe spend their ink raging against their officers, the higher command, the army system, the governments which unleashed war, and almost anything but the enemy. Why? Because their heroic efforts and sacrifices brought no apparent result. (I am speaking, of course, of the immediate result of tactical success.) They knew that they were being used stupidly. This, it appears to me, must inevitably be the reaction of any intelligent man who has the misfortune to serve in the lower grades of the infantry—grist to be ground in the mills of war.

"Infantry alone," say the Field Service Regulations, "possesses the power to close with the enemy, and enforce the decision of battle. Its forward movement is the indispensable condition of victory." Very well. But if the enemy is resisting with any determination—and two or three machine-guns will often hold up an attacking battalion—the soldier's natural inclination is to lie down in such cover as he can find, and a very powerful effort of the will is necessary to counter this inclination. As staff officers say, the morale of the troops must be high if they are to be successful in attack. Let us consider what emotions and sentiments can combine to form this high morale—that is, to provide the driving force which will evoke the effort of will that the isolated man must make to get up from his shell-hole, or from behind his rock, and face death among the machine-gun bullets.

Patriotism is supposed to be the sentiment which the soldier cherishes above all

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others, but that idea is held only by those who have never actually fought. Patriotism, or some simulacrum of it, probably induces the soldier to enlist, and it may help him to endure and to resist defeatist propaganda, but the notion that "by rising and rushing on the enemy I will help to make my country great and preserve her liberties" simply does not occur to him in his shell-hole. The Fatherland is a conception altogether too vague and distant, and the machine-gun bullets are too near and real.

A lesser variety of patriotism, *esprit de corps*, is more likely to influence his actions, but for it to be fully effective he should be able to feel the force of example, or to have the assurance that his example, if he sets a good one, will be noticed by his comrades. But this assurance is commonly wanting: the soldier under heavy fire seldom knows where the rest of his unit is, sees little of its actions, and does not reckon on its seeing his. It is a very common thing for wounded men, returning from a hot corner, to report that their platoon or company has been wiped out, when actually all that has happened is that on suffering heavy casualties, probably including the leader, the remainder have temporarily gone to ground.

Ambition and the hope of glory, which in the past have led soldiers to do great deeds, are now less powerful motives than they used to be. The soldier in the shell-hole knows that even if he plays the hero —and escapes death—it is improbable that his valor will be observed. Equally he knows that skulking may be unobserved. I believe that the thought of personal distinction is scarcely ever present in the mind of the soldier when he is accomplishing a brave militarily useful act in the face of the enemy. On the other hand, after he has been decorated, it often has an important effect on him, in that he feels that he must show an example to his comrades who have not been so distinguished.

Hatred is a powerful emotion, but it is one which, as the range lengthens, loses a great deal of its strength. It is difficult to hate a person you do not see, and have never seen. Civilians are usually very much surprised that front-line soldiers seldom evince any hatred of the enemy. All the war books make out that the soldier may hate his sergeant, his lieutenant, and, very violently, the staff and high command, but that he generally feels very tolerant towards his equal in the trenches opposite.

But once the soldier can see his enemy, and realizes that his life is being threatened by that enemy, then hatred is quickly aroused in any man of sound primitive instincts. Perhaps rage is a better term. At any rate, if troops can be stimulated to rage, it is no longer necessary to worry about their anxiety to close with the enemy. But the difficulty is to work them up to the requisite heat. Long range small-arms fire or shelling does not do it—it is too impersonal.

One would like the soldier to have a spirit of simple ferocity, like that of a bull-terrier who perceives a strange dog in his master's garden. Elements of this ferocity persist in nearly all men, but it is usually so weak as to be readily damped by danger. Many men will stone a domestic cat, but few would stone a lynx, and none at all in their senses would stone a tiger. The ferocity which enabled a handful of Spaniards to conquer Mexico and Peru and a handful of British to conquer India is not favored in its growth by the conditions of modern civilization. A little was done in the late war to stimulate it by suggestion, as in training with the bayonet, but the results were not great. For a time, in the British Army, when the theory of a war of attrition held sway, propaganda was instituted to develop ferocity. Little questionnaires were given to the men in the trenches, which inquired, "Do I take every opportunity to harass the enemy? . . . How many Huns have I killed today? . . . Am I as offensive as I might be?", etc. But the men for the most part only laughed at it, and at the brass hats who originated the scheme.

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I suppose it is theoretically possible to train up ferocious soldiers, by catching them young, keeping them segregated from women, dieting them suitably, indulging them in dangerous sports, and educating them to ideals of death and glory—the other fellow's death and their own glory. But apart from other difficulties, such a body of men would constitute a grave menace to the civil population—it would be a rude and licentious soldiery indeed, though a soldiery which, in battle, would be worth several times its weight of the modern Y. M. C. A.-haunting style of troops. The experiment, I fear, will never be carried out. Governments generally are a good deal more frightened by the possibility of the troops becoming mutinous and flouting their authority than they are by the possibility that they may not defeat their enemies.

So far the discussion has been restricted to the qualities which the infantry must have, if it is to be successful in battle at the present day. The other arms have their problems too, of the same nature, but none so difficult as those of the infantry, for none of the other arms must rely to the same extent on its own sinew and spirit to close with the enemy. Even the cavalry has its horses, which, once set in motion towards the objective, generally keep going: a renewed and violent effort of will is not required for every few paces' advance. The soldier in the other arms usually has to operate some more or less complicated machine, a task less foreign to the modern man than the work of the infantry, which is the personal, visible slaughter of other human beings, sometimes by tools as barbarous as the pikes of antiquity.

Let us, now, summarize the argument. First, if armies are to take the offensive successfully, using the tactics which are standard at present, very high morale and considerable initiative is required in the individual infantry soldier. Secondly, infantry soldiers who are naturally endued with initiative will not be forthcoming in sufficient numbers in either professional or conscript armies. Thirdly, it is improbable that any method of training which will produce initiative in the infantryman will be instituted. And fourthly, if the ranks of the infantry were filled with intelligent men, it is unlikely that they would long submit willingly to being used as it is intended to use infantry.

These conclusions, if correct, can mean one of two things: either that the offensive in modern war is impracticable and that the defensive is definitely the stronger form, or that the principle on which offensive tactics are based, *i.e.*, that the advance of infantry is necessary in order to confirm the victory, is incorrect. My own opinion is that the day of infantry as the Queen of Battles is over. The machine-gun has proved too strong for the foot soldier; to overcome it another machine is necessary.

Many military conservatives make play with the phrase, "The machine can never replace the man," but that is not the question: the question is whether a man relying on his own muscles can effect as much as a man controlling a machine. The tank is simply a machine to remedy the deficiencies of the infantry soldier. The latter cannot move fast or far enough, he cannot carry armor to protect himself from bullets, he cannot carry a weapon more efficient than a rifle, with the necessary ammunition for it: the tank is a machine to enable him to do all these things.

The man, when he controls a machine, becomes more important than ever. It is obvious that he will need high morale and initiative, as the infantryman does. But such great numbers of men will not be required, and this will afford better opportunity for selection. In the British Army it is found that the Tank Corps easily recruits a better class of men than the line infantry can get. It is also pretty certain that fighting in a tank does not make the almost impossible demands on the courage of the soldier that fighting as an infantryman does. The tankist is in a machine moving forward; if danger threatens, cover is very hard to find, and the tendency will be

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to keep going—as the average driver of a motor car does when he perceives himself to be in danger.

Lastly, with the introduction of machines, new tactics will be invented, and training must be made to suit the new tactics. During all these changes, perhaps the thick crust of tradition will be broken up, the débris of obsolete methods be cleared away, and the training of the soldier redesigned on more rational lines. At all events, let us hope so.

Business

THE SECRETARY

By William Feather

When an American business man says, "My secretary will attend to that," he may mean that she will sew a button on his coat, order a bottle of gin, replenish his cigarette-case, telephone his wife that he's left for New York, order dinner for six at his club, call his chauffeur, draw a check, write a speech, type a letter, fill his fountain pen, dust his desk, remind him it's his wedding anniversary, give him the title of a good book, buy a birthday present for his partner, match a sample of silk, tell him his suit needs a pressing, criticize his necktie, notify him that he needs a haircut, or beat off a book-agent. Without a secretary a modern high-powered executive would be helpless. He couldn't get through the day.

No one has accurately defined the difference between a stenographer and a secretary. A stenographer may be subject to the orders of several, but a secretary has but one boss. Perhaps that's the essential variation. To be a secretary is to be distinguished. A wife is rather proud to speak of "My husband's secretary." A woman who is smart enough to become a secretary is assumed, even by members of her own sex, to be too smart to indulge in anything even remotely fragrant of vulgarity. A man may speak of his secretary with the impunity that a woman speaks of "My physician." The relationship is strictly professional, and by popular assent absolutely virtuous. Women barbers, nurses, manicurists, waitresses, and night-club hostesses have never achieved anything like it.

You never know an American business man until you have seen his secretary. You can learn more about him from looking at his secretary than from observing his wife. Divorce is attended with unpleasantness, and so men struggle along with their wives even though they don't like them. But there's no reason to keep a secretary if she doesn't suit. Her employer can terminate the contract any day. The fact that he keeps her means that she is satisfactory. Whereas his wife merely knows that he can't abide one-minute eggs and that he sleeps in a nightgown, except when traveling, the secretary is aware that he is speculating in oil stocks and that he corresponds with a woman in Toledo.

A man who might be expected to have the most luscious secretary may employ an owlish female in corsets and petticoats. An old duffer, with a gruff voice, a gimlet eye and a porcupine mustache, may have a liking for sweet high-school graduates. Old boys, who have made their pile and have retired from active participation in affairs, become extremely particular about the type of woman who is to share their society and knowledge. An employment agent told of one capitalist who interviewed twenty-five women, paying each a day's wages for her trouble, and is still unsatisfied, and has a standing order for new applicants. His motives would be suspect were he not a man of known integrity, a deacon of his church, and a prominent Rotarian.

As I have said, a secretary knows far more about a man than his wife. She is likely to know all about his business affairs. She knows whether he is making money or losing it. If he is an employé she knows how he rates with the head of the corporation. She often writes checks for his household accounts, and so has a line on

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the margin between his income and his outgo. If the boss and his wife have quarreled, she can sense the trouble, and the chances are even that he will tell her about it.

The wages of secretaries range from $150 to $500 a month, although few are ever employed at an initial salary equal to the latter figure. They have to work up. Some make more than $500 a month, but they are super-secretaries and are burdened with grave responsibilities. Many so-called secretaries make less than $150 a month, but they are not entitled to classification in the professional group.

Odd duties devolve on willing secretaries, although some are touchy about what is professional and what is not. An advertising man was accustomed to keeping two suits at his office and making a change occasionally. One morning, after a new girl had been installed at $200 a month—the best pay she had ever received—he stepped into the lavatory and emerged in a fresh suit. He tossed the old one on a chair, instructing his secretary to have the office boy take it to the cleaner. The young lady rebelled and quit. Other employers go to the other extreme, and instead of asking their secretaries to perform menial tasks, are inclined to treat them as privileged guests, assisting them to put on coats and galoshes, and lending them umbrellas.

Most secretaries and employers find a comfortable middle ground. Few secretaries object to doing household errands, or seeing that they are done. They buy theatre tickets, make Pullman reservations, type themes for the children, and sometimes lie to get the boss out of an embarrassing situation. One executive I know compels his wife to telephone his secretary when she makes an engagement for him. Otherwise he cannot guarantee to keep her appointments.

One of the prime duties of a good secretary is to protect her boss against unwelcome visitors, in person and by telephone. This requires skill, because mistakes may be costly. If the job is artfully done, the boss is saved endless hours of boredom and irritation.

The secretary is allowed to open all the mail, except notes that are obviously in the handwriting of the wife or daughter. She knows how to answer nine-tenths of the letters, and usually goes ahead and types the replies, often signing them herself. Although a secretary can take dictation, she gets most of her instructions in such phrases as "Tell him I'll be there," "No, I can't do it," "Sorry, but I'll be in Europe," or "Thank him."

If the employer is a shrewd and skillful business man, the secretary is often given an opportunity to participate in his financial adventures. In recent years innumerable secretaries of brokers and capitalists have made small fortunes. Accumulations of from $20,000 to $250,000 are common. This is accomplished by doing what the boss does, with his consent and partly at his instigation. Some women may have lost money in the process, but one never hears of those who lose.

A married woman employed by a broker expressed deep regret to an employment agent because her husband was leaving the city and she must go with him.

"What was your salary?" she was asked.

"Salary!" she laughed. "That was nothing. But I made $10,000 last year."

Unmarried women with the maternal instinct receive, in addition to their cash income, what the professors know as psychic income. They are privileged to say motherly and wifely things to the boss. "Why, Mr. Goofish, you just can't go around in that suit any more: it's a sight," or "Why, Mr. Goofish, when I think of all the money your family spends I can't imagine how anybody can be unhappy."

If Mr. Goofish is a vice-president and returns from the president's office with beads of sweat on his forehead, the secretary will keep quiet until he turns to her with doggy eyes, beseeching sympathy, and then she will purr softly, "Do you know, Mr. Goofish, you haven't had a vacation for three years." Mr. Goofish will

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then tell her everything, and will feel better.

Many suspect that the secretarial relationship may be supplying the want men have felt since the modern wife took on so many outside interests. Nowadays husbands and wives are rarely together and alone more than one evening a week. The wife has her bridge, golf, committee work, weight-reducing class, and beauty parlor appointments. The man goes off with a foursome on Saturday and Sunday, and is either traveling or dining downtown half the weekday evenings. Other evenings man and wife receive guests or are entertained by friends.

So the man looks to the secretary for the understanding and companionship that once came from the wife. The final solution may be two wives for men who can afford it—one for social hours and one for business hours.

Certain it is that thousands of business and professional men would be inconsolable if they lost their faithful secretaries. The attachment is both sentimental and economic. The secretaries of professional men are frequently the business brains of the team. The occasional illiteracy of high-powered business executives is deftly concealed by their competent helpmates. The vulgar and brutal commands that hiss through clenched teeth are transcribed into diplomatic messages worthy of the Court of St. James.

Hearing all yet hearing nothing, seeing all yet seeing nothing, knowing all yet knowing nothing, the ideal secretary has become a counterpart of the Admirable Crichton. Impersonal, inscrutable, efficient and tactful, she is indispensable. Of all places hers is the hardest to fill. Of all absences hers are the hardest to bear. Let that be a tribute to her.

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COW-TOWN WIDOWS

BY H. L. DAVIS

TRUMPETER BROYLES was a sawed-off, dried-up old scold of a saloonkeeper, with a bright red face, white mustaches, a white lip-whisker like the pictures of Phil Sheridan, and eyebrows that bushed out as stiff as tufts of dead tickle-grass. He had fought with Sheridan's cavalry in the Civil War, and his style of whisker-pruning was intended, no doubt, to commemorate his campaigns. I don't know whether he had been a trumpeter or he got the name on account of his voice. It was a high, jagged-edged rattle, which, when he was particularly angry, cracked into a gurgling screech. There were no modulations at all. He would invite a customer to have one on the house in the same tone he might have used to order an enemy to put up his hands. The people who lived neighbors to him claimed that it sounded the same when he talked to his wife, though he was merely asking her to pass the biscuits.

Some people suggested that she might be hard of hearing, and that he yelled at everybody because he had got in the habit of yelling at her. But that was guesswork, for in the five years old Broyles had been in business in our cow-town she had never talked to anybody except her husband. He yelled at people because he was a natural-born shrew, as no one who had anything to do with him could help discovering. We youngsters found it out the first time we ever had a run-in with him.

We had gone into his saloon to buy soda-pop. At that time the saloons were the only places where they sold it. It came in big quart bottles, at twenty-five cents a throw —more than any one of us could drink or pay for, so that we usually clubbed in and went to buy it in a gang. All the other saloons welcomed our custom, or pretended to. But not old Trumpeter Broyles. He was alone in his barroom, and he looked as if he needed business; but he didn't want ours. He grabbed a sawed-off chair-leg and came round the bar at us, cussing and yelling like a little old buck-chipmunk.

"You little pests pull your freight out of here, every last goddamnable one of ye!" he shrieked, pounding the floor with the chair-leg as he advanced on us. "Git! This minute! Git on out of that door, or I'll cut the hell out of every blasted little whelp of ye! I'll——"

We took our twenty-five cents and went over to the saloon across the street. The bartender there had overheard the rumpus, and noticed that we looked upset. He explained that we needn't feel badly about it. It wasn't anything we had done that put Old Man Broyles on his ear. The trouble was that he was doing things that he was afraid we might catch him at. He was peddling whiskey to Indians, for one thing, and that was a Federal offense. Not only that, but he knew that if the people in town could prove it on him, they would be tickled to death to put him through the hoedown.

"He's got two or three Siwashes stretched out in his back-room right now, most likely," said the bartender. "He was probably in a sweat for fear one of 'em would come to while you was there. Only it ought to be a lesson to you to buy your soda-pop at a decent place from now on."

We thought that it would be. But why did old Broyles peddle whiskey to the

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Indians when none of the other saloons in town had to? The bartender explained that Broyles had got people down on him, and that nobody but Siwashes and blacklisted sots would patronize him any more. It was all on account of Bill Glisan and his mother. Mrs. Glisan wanted old Broyles to quit selling her son whiskey, and Broyles wanted her sent to jail as a dangerous character.

We knew Bill Glisan and his mother well enough. She was the town indigent, and he was the town nuisance—a big, swollen-looking dullard with bluish spots on his face, who slobbered on his chin and stood rocking back and forth as if some nerve in his brain were about to quit on him. All the youngsters in town were afraid of him, not because he was apt to hurt them, but because he was disgusting to look at, and because he tried to strike up a conversation with every youngster he met. He had been drunk in every gutter in Eastern Oregon, and had the smells on his clothes to prove it. Whenever he could find a sheep-ranch where he was not known, he herded sheep until they found out that he was worthless and fired him. Then he came back to town and lived on his mother.

She was a pitiful old creature, for whom everybody felt sorry—reasonably enough, for she was old, foolish, and afflicted with a son who was not worth knocking in the head. But she was considerably less foolish than most people thought. There was no earthly way to get anything out of her son's industry, for he didn't have any, but she had worked out a scheme for collecting enough to live on from his orneriness. She was very tall and scrawny, but bulgy in the wrong places, like an old broken-mouthed ewe that has been overgrassed, and she helped out the likeness by tying up her face in an old white cotton shawl and pitching her voice to an aimless bawling monotone. When she got a man cornered, she would begin by explaining that her head was all mixed up, and that she didn't know what she was talking about half the time. Then she would let in and talk about her son—how badly he treated her, what a fine boy he would be if people wouldn't let him get hold of alcohol, and how all he needed was somebody to encourage him.

She made it sound like aimless maundering, but it was a long way from being any such thing. Let a rancher agree with her, and she was on him like a hawk nailing a bullsnake. If all poor Bill needed was a chance, what was the matter with giving him one? Why not give him a good steady job, where he could work and be a comfort to his old mother? There was no use explaining anything to her, because she would cut in with a reminder that her head was all mixed up, so she couldn't understand things. Among these things that she couldn't understand was that any rancher in the country would far rather hire ten other men than have Bill's services for nothing. He could lose more sheep in a week than a good herder's wages would pay for in a year. But, rather than try to beat that through her mixed-up head, they usually gave her what small change they had, and backed out while she was busy counting it.

II

With the saloons, she had a different line. She visited each of them once a week, waiting, usually, until there was a good-sized line at the bar. Then she would push through and beg the bartender not to let Bill have any more whiskey. None of the saloonkeepers were in the habit of letting him have any, or even of allowing him in their places, for the sight of him was enough to keep all the paying customers away, but there was no use telling her that unless they wanted her settled on them for the afternoon. It was cheaper to tell her all right, and give her three silver dollars.

That was what old Trumpeter Broyles should have done when she called on him. Instead, he fired up into a fury, screamed, cursed, and not only didn't offer her any three dollars, but swore that he would sell her son all the whiskey he could pay for, as often as he came after it.

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That sounded considerably wickeder than it really was, for, as everybody knew, all the whiskey that Bill Glisan could pay for wouldn't have wet the bowl of a teaspoon. When he couldn't bum it or steal a jug from a freight-wagon, he stayed dry. Some of the men tried to explain to Trumpeter Broyles who the old woman was, and that the quickest way to get rid of her was to buy her off, but he was too well started to listen. He must have yelled at her a good deal like he did at us youngsters. She got no chance to argue, and he wouldn't even let her tell him about her mixed-up head.

"I don't give a whoop in a rain-barrel who she is!" he screeched. "The place she belongs is home! I keep my wife at home! Why in the gad-blasted blazes can't other people keep theirs there? I'll throw her out, by gad, if I have to take her to pieces to do it!"

Fearing that he really meant business, some men lugged the old woman out on the sidewalk before he could reach her. They gave her the three dollars she had failed to get from Broyles's till, and started her for home. When they went back inside, the trumpeter had cooled off, and began to explain apologetically, but piercingly, that he didn't hold with women frequenting places of business.

"It's on account of my wife," he told them. "She stays home, where she belongs. I don't want her to let men come monkeyin' around her when I ain't there, and I won't stand for women monkeyin' around me. It wouldn't be right, by gad!"

The notion that Mrs. Broyles's marital rights were in danger from Old Lady Glisan was so entertaining that, for several days, the Broyles bar had quite a run of custom, all eager to hear the little, white-haired, needle-voiced old runt tell how careful he was to give his wife no excuse for jealousy. Everybody was curious to know what kind of woman could be jealous of Trumpeter Broyles; but both the curiosity and the run of custom were kept from going very far by Bill Glisan's mother. Since pathos hadn't moved him, she decided to try action. She waited until late at night, after Trumpeter Broyles had locked up and gone home, and then sneaked into the alley behind his saloon to set it on fire. She failed, of course. A couple of late-hauling freighters heard her working with paper and matches, and hauled her home, blubbering. Everybody else excused the old woman, because she was cracked, and because, whatever her intentions had been, she hadn't done any damage. But old Broyles would hear of nothing less than having her jailed for arson. He cussed the justice of the peace for refusing to issue a warrant; he shrieked and gargled at the marshal and the deputy sheriff for declining to arrest her without one. And he argued with and insulted his customers when they tried to tell him that all the old woman needed was to be let alone until they quit coming to his saloon at all, and he had to peddle whiskey to the Indians to make a living.

If he had taken his case to the county attorney, he would have very likely got the action that everybody else refused him. The old woman wouldn't have gone to jail, but she would have been sent to some kind of institution. But he wanted her in jail, and he didn't want to monkey with the county attorney for fear of bringing on an investigation of his own business. He had taken it out in yelling, screaming and scolding, and he continued to scream, yell and squabble with anybody who would listen to him, until he died, and was shipped to some town in the East where there was an old soldier's cemetery.

Once the people got a good sight of Trumpeter Broyles's widow, it was easy enough to understand why the little white-mustached runt had kept her at home all the time. She was built like a derrick-horse, her hands were shaped like ox-bow stirrups, and she could easily have lifted him sitting in one palm. Stood up against her, he would have looked like a mummified papoose.

It was not easy to figure how, with such

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a build, she had allowed him to keep her stalled away from everybody for five years, with no knowledge of the town or the people in it except what he yelled at her of an evening. It couldn't have been due to any superior strength of will. She had a mouth like a fissure in granite, and the judgments he had given her of the townspeople were set in her head as if embedded in lava. All the practical jokes men had played on him to make him hop and screech, all the slights they had put off on him, and the occasions when they had laughed at him, he had packed home and peddled; and every one she had saved up religiously, both the deed and the name of the culprit, until she had at least one grudge against every household in town.

But her grudges were different from her husband's. He had fumed, preached and cussed about them without ever doing anything else. His widow didn't fume at all, but when her next-door neighbor called to offer help in her bereavement, meaning nothing but kindness, she took him one in the wind before he could introduce himself.

"You're George Pruitt," she informed him. "You pulled my husband's mustaches when you was drunk!"

Both particulars were correct, although Pruitt couldn't recall the second one without considerable study.

"Git out of this place!" she ordered. "I don't need help, and I wouldn't take yourn if I did!"

She shut the door in his face and left him feeling like a child caught turpentining a cow. He hadn't minded Trumpeter Broyles's opinion of him. To be thought a hog-necked, low-down, bullying punk by that windy little screech-owl was merely funny. But though Trumpeter Broyles was dead, here were his opinions still, bigger and livelier than ever, and in his widow they weren't funny, but humiliating. He had delivered them, no doubt, as the spittings of his fits of shrewish rage, meaning no more than so many cusswords; but she had made them into deliberate, measured judgments, enlarging and solidifying them and raising them to a dignity before which the townspeople stuttered and blushed.

It wasn't as if they could do anything to redeem themselves. She didn't expect them to, and wouldn't have understood what they were after, if they had. Her husband had told her they were a set of punks and scaly-tailed pups, and nothing could change her opinion, because it wasn't hers to change. One would have thought that, judging them as she did, she would have moved to some other place, where the company was cleaner and more respectable. Her husband's saloon had been bought by a Mexican half-breed, and there seemed no reason why she should go on living among people she despised.

III

But, perhaps on account of her legacy of grudges, she stayed. The old lady Glisan, who had tried to burn her husband's saloon, was one. Trumpeter Broyles had insisted that the old lady Glisan belonged in jail; but, where he had taken it out in preaching and fuming, his widow got straight to business, and hired a lawyer from the county seat to organize a case for the grand jury. He spent three days in town listing witnesses and taking depositions. It was a certainty that, when he turned them in, the old lady Glisan would be locked up; perhaps not in jail, but at least in some institution where she couldn't play with coal-oil and matches.

Yet nobody made any objection. Men had been down on Trumpeter Broyles for merely threatening to have her jailed, though he had an honest excuse to feel uneasy while she ran loose. But Mrs. Broyles owned no saloon that could be burned, for she had sold it, and yet she was going to put the poor old creature over the road anyway, without anyone raising a murmur against it. Men actually called on Mrs. Broyles to offer themselves as witnesses, and, probably, to see what she

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looked like. Instead of being grateful for the favor, she took their names as if she were doing them one. Nevertheless, the old lady Glisan didn't go to jail. Bill Glisan forestalled that. He had contracted with some simpleton to sell rotgut whiskey on the Indian reservation, and, instead of selling it, he drank himself into delirium tremens. When the old lady hauled him home to sober up, he went insane and killed her with the kitchen butcher-knife.

The killing was too horrible and pitiful not to demand retribution. Bill Glisan, of course, couldn't be hanged, for he had gone permanently crazy, and there could be no satisfaction in hanging a man who didn't know what he was being stretched for. So he went to the asylum, which was no retribution at all. The loss of the old lady Glisan bothered nobody; if she hadn't dinged at people continually they would have allowed her to starve to death and thought nothing of it. But the shock of having her murdered so revoltingly called for somebody to be punished. The only person in town who had borne her any special ill-will was Mrs. Broyles, and they picked on her because there was nobody else.

To be sure, they couldn't hang her. The most they could legally manage was to make her uncomfortable. But the things they thought up to devil her with were enough to have driven anybody insane. The trail-herds that came through town in the cattle-shipping season were all stopped in front of her house, and set milling so they would break through her fence. It worked best when she had her washing hung out. To see her chasing a scared steer through her flower-bed, trying to get close enough to grab a wet nightgown off its horns, was a sight worth shutting up shop to see. Then there was the stunt of turning off her water-supply, and sending her tramping all over town to find somebody who knew where to turn it on again. The Indians who came through town in the early Summer were told that her patch of vegetables belonged to anybody who wanted to pick them, and she had a fist-fight with three half-drunken squaws who insisted on pulling up all her onion sets.

As far as sociability was concerned, she was simply marked off the book. The store clerk would let her wait at the counter for an hour before he even inquired what she wanted, and the youth who herded the town milk cows to and from the range cut her red muley out of the bunch and left her to find her way home when she got ready. People who had asked, almost as a favor, to be allowed to testify for her against Bill Glisan's mother now quit speaking to her because, although she hadn't managed to do anything with her case, she deserved retribution for having intended to.

Mrs. Broyles tramped along their sidewalks, taking as little notice of their disapproval as she had of their attempted sympathy. She dangled her big ox-bow hands at her sides; her face was more like a granite rock-break than ever; and her great flat-lidded eyes never winked or flinched. She made people feel, merely by looking at them, that they weren't worth the trouble it would take to wring their necks.

That, indeed, was what she believed of the women; not because she had made any estimate of their characters, but because Trumpeter Broyles had neglected to. Since he hadn't thought them worth mentioning neither did she. As for the men, she had his word for it that they were a bunch of cheap skunks, and the signs of their enmity meant nothing except that he had told her right. About the real reason why they disliked her she was undoubtedly a perfect blank. The fact that Bill Glisan's mother had been brutally murdered had nothing to do with the fact that she had belonged in jail. It merely meant that she couldn't be sent there. That much of Trumpeter Broyles's ideals of justice couldn't be fulfilled.

But there was plenty left to square up for him without it; and she beaded down on the jokers who schemed out ways to devil her, with a recklessness that, for a

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couple of months, hurt them beyond anything that even Trumpeter Broyles could have wished. Running cattle into her yard lost all of its flavor when, instead of turning out to chase them, she merely opened an upstairs window and blasted them with a shotgun loaded with buckshot. The joke of sending innocent Indians to gut her garden also went flat when she came out with a blacksnake whip, chased the fat squaws to the fence, and cut the hide off them in strips when they caught in the pickets trying to climb over. The squaws, instead of holding their licking against her, went back and hunted up the sidewalk joker who had sent them, and, with half the town looking on horrified, quirted him until he crawled under the schoolhouse, where he stayed until they had left town.

Against the youth who herded the town milk cows to pasture, she worked out the most artful retaliation of all, for it was one that gave her an agreeable outing while it hurt, not only him, but every family in town along with him. She brought out Trumpeter Broyles's riding rig and herded her cow alone; but she took care to delay going to pasture until the town herder had got back. Then, turning her own red muley to grass, she would round up the town cattle and haze them down into the wild onion patches on Soap creek. The herder's punishment came from having to track them down in the evening; the townspeople got theirs from the wild onion on which their cows had grazed. The milk of a cow pastured on wild onion is unfit to drink, because of the smell—a curious, gripping smell, like musk and as hard to swallow.

She got another pleasure out of this besides that of making the townspeople uncomfortable. That was from riding. She was a master at horsemanship, and she was proud of it to the point of wanting to show off, though, beside the men she detested and the women she despised, there was nobody to show off to except us youngsters. Perhaps we ought to have pitied her, for it was a sign that she needed somebody to talk to; but the creature I felt sorry for was her pony. He was a gentle, meek little Indian gelding, with a spirit as mild as a jar of buttermilk. She rode him as if he were a man-eating tiger, and quirted and roweled him until, merely to be obliging, he acted like one.

It was a childish performance enough, and it indicated that loneliness had already made her queer, although, at the time, we were too scared of her to see it. To most people in town, she was an old witch who played horse with them as she pleased, without ever doing anything she could be cinched for. Acting within her property rights, she had planted ball-cactus along both sides of her front walk, which all the town drunks traveled on their way home when the saloons closed. Weaving in the dark, they usually fell into a clump of thorns; and, having always at least half a jag, they never remembered to turn out and avoid it. Half the men in town had to wear poultices on various parts of their persons, and new victims were falling every night, when she rode out to the bare hillside where the youngsters practiced buckarooing against each other, and delivered a dare.

"Huh! You want to learn to ride, huh?" she said. "Let's see you take this jump!"

There was nothing to jump nearer than her own back-yard fence, connecting her outbuildings. It was nothing—a couple of planks, about four feet high. Any of us could have cleared it standing. Not, of course, that we wanted to, knowing how she felt about trespassers.

"Come on!" she said, and set her horse downhill hellity-pelt—not at the fence, but at her chicken-house. It was all of eight feet high, and looked higher. Her pony raked a hoof on it, and went out of sight sprawling a little, but when we hurried downhill expecting to pull Mrs. Broyles out from under him we found her calmly unsaddling.

"You didn't jump it, huh?" she mocked. "I didn't think you would! When you can make a jump like that, you'll know how to ride!"

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There was talk, of the kind that starts nowhere and goes everywhere, that she had learned her tricks as an orphan in Nebraska, when she earned her living by riding as water-punk for a threshing-crew. Trumpeter Broyles had rescued her from that existence, according to the report, by marrying her. If he had, no wonder she worshipped his memory.

IV

And no wonder she needed company—after having cut herself off from everybody's but his because he didn't want people to notice that, measured against her, he looked like her little boy. Had he been afraid of a comparison deeper than that? Had he seen that she had him lapped, not only in beef and bone, but in character too, and depth and tenacity of will? Probably not; probably there was never any room in his silly, cat-spitting little brain to see anything except himself. Yet even to us youngsters her very ignorance had a majesty that we were afraid of. Her one visit to the hillside where we practiced buckarooing kept all of us from ever going there again. We noticed her, several times, eyeing the vacant ground as if she were keeping watch on it and wondering where we had all sneaked off to. The town was a lonely place for anybody in the first scorching month of Summer. There were no men for her to invent meanness against, for they were all either gone with stock to the mountains, or laid up, too loggy with the heat to move.

It was the season that took the youngsters out of town, too, for there was business for them to attend to. The coyotes whelped in dens in the rimrock or tunnels in the sidehill, and finding one meant big money: the Stockmen's Association paid a bounty on scalps of three dollars apiece, and we found sometimes as many as ten pups to a litter. We had to kill them to get the scalps, of course, and that was disagreeable, for they were cute little devils. But, brutality and all, we preferred it to the work which came on about the time the coyotes weaned their pups. That took, not hard-heartedness, but a tough hide and quick fingers. It was harvesting the wild red gooseberries to peddle to the housewives in town. Nobody wanted to pick them because it was such murderously hard work; but everybody bought them, because they were the only fruit the country had.

Everybody, that is, except Mrs. Broyles. Nobody ever attempted to sell her anything, least of all the youngsters their gooseberries. It was clear that she was almost insane for some kind of conversation, and some instinct warned the youngsters that she would probably try to start one by picking a row, because it was the one kind of opening she had ever learned.

Then, coming home tired from the patch one evening, I forgot that Mrs. Broyles was alive, and took a shot with a .22 rifle at a sage-rat in the road in front of her house. The bullet glanced off a rock, and went somewhere with a loudish zzzzeeee. Before it had stopped, out came Mrs. Broyles. Her loneliness must have been getting almost unbearable; the report of the rifle wasn't much louder than snapping one's fingers, and the glancing bullet would have been drowned out by the note of a common adult locust. She must have been sitting with her ear cocked to have heard it at all.

When she appeared, I thought of denying that I had shot; unluckily, there was the sage-rat kicking in the dust where I had bored him, about fifteen feet from her gate. She looked from his corpse to me, and drew a deep breath. Almost by an involuntary contraction of my muscles with fear, I heeled my pony in the flanks, where he was ticklish, and fled at a run. She grabbed at my leg as I went past, and yelled "You come back here!" as I turned the corner, showering gooseberries as my buckets bounced and slanted. I didn't mind losing them. I would gladly have jettisoned the whole load that it had taken me all day to pick if it would have helped to get rid of her. But—

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"I know who you are!" she yelled after me. "You come here to me, or I'll come after you!"

If she did know, I thought, there was nothing left for me but to move my blankets out in the sagebrush and have my food brought out at night. When the evening passed without her showing up, I began to wonder, more coolly, whether she hadn't been bluffing; and I felt so confident she had been that, lying half-awake the next morning, I listened to what sounded like her voice in the kitchen without dreaming that it was anything but the illusion of past fright.

But it was really Mrs. Broyles. She talked on too long for any illusion, demanding of my mother that I be taken out and thrashed, for first shooting at her, and then trying to ride over her.

"A good hard lickin'," she stipulated. "Not one of them kind where you paddle with your hand. You take the buckle-end of a strap, and larrup him till he bawls!"

It was the first word she had spoken to a woman since she had lived in town. I judged she must feel a little ill at ease, to be willing to let me off with a licking, and trust somebody else to inflict it, even with the buckle-end of a strap. My mother said something, probably agreeing with her to get rid of her. If it was for that, it was wasted.

"I'll wait here till you git ready to tend to him," I heard Mrs. Broyles say. "What's that you're cookin' in that kittle?"

It was wild gooseberries. My mother explained that they grew wild, and that the children had been making side-money picking them. They were good to can and make pies of; people bought them, and the work kept the children out of mischief. . . . I expected that remark to bring Mrs. Broyles back to her argument, but she was interested in the gooseberries.

"How much do the youngsters git for these things when they peddle 'em?" she inquired; and, when my mother named the price—forty cents a gallon—"Where did you say this patch they're pickin' in is?"

"It's cheaper to buy them than to work picking them," my mother suggested. "Any of the youngsters will bring you all you need, if——"

"They're as much mine as them kids'," said Mrs. Broyles. "If they grow wild, they're public property. I could lay claim to a share of the berries in that kittle, if I was a mind to. I'm entitled to know where that patch is, too!"

The exploitation of public property by private interests had been one of Trumpeter Broyles's loudest woes, especially after the cattle-ranchers quit patronizing his bar. Trying to overcome any of his convictions in Mrs. Broyles was hopeless, and my mother, seeing that something of the kind was against her, called me to furnish directions about the gooseberry patch. I came downstairs and gave them, thankful and considerably surprised to be let off so easy.

"That's where you kids have been all this time, is it?" said Mrs. Broyles. "What right have you got to pick them berries to sell? They belong to the public, don't they?"

It was nothing to me whom they belonged to. I didn't intend to pick any more of them, anyway. The people had bought all they would, and it was too hot in the rock-canyon where they grew to work picking them. Besides, the patch covered three hundred acres, and there were enough berries left in it to have foundered everybody in the country. Mrs. Broyles didn't know that, of course. She didn't know, either, that all the youngsters had knocked off, and that she would have the patch to herself.

"I'll pick what I need," she said. "I'd like to see anybody around here stop me!"

She left without waiting to see whether I got licked hard enough to suit her, and came riding past in a few minutes with buckets on her saddle-horn and an expectant set to her big cliff-colored mouth that had always meant somebody's bad luck.

Mrs. Broyles, I figured, would last about three trips. Afterward I began to

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wonder whether she could be baited into lasting more. Suppose she got the idea that she had competition? Maybe she was disappointed not to have found any. When, at the end of the third trip, she sat down on her porch in the shade to cool off, I saddled up, hung buckets all over my pony, and rode past her front gate clattering them.

Sure enough, it worked. Mrs. Broyles came out, forked her nag, and went past me with her berry-buckets banging like a fire-engine. She was in the thick of the patch when I got there. I didn't pick any berries, and I noticed that her picking seemed purposed more to wreck the bushes than to save the fruit. She stripped down the bushes, leaves, stems and all, like a bear. A bucket tipped over when she had it almost full, and, instead of salvaging the load, she wiped it into the dirt with a swipe of her big shoe and grabbed another bush. The canyon was too hot even to sit still in. It seemed impossible that anybody would work in it merely to outdo a set of children.

To outdo only one, she wouldn't. I kept her going, single-handed, all that day; but the next morning she refused to rouse to my pail-jingling until I made the competition stronger. It was almost noon before I managed to argue the other berry-picking youngsters into tracking past her gate in a gang, and we were in sight of the berry-patch before she caught up with us. She jolted past us with a glare that scared most of the crew into going back home again. The part of the canyon where she had picked looked as if it had been wallowed by stampeding cattle. Not only had she ripped off all the foliage, but she had broken down and trampled the bushes afterward. Yet, working her best lick for an entire day, she had covered less than half an acre.

She couldn't have hoped to clean out the patch inside of two years; she couldn't have needed the berries, for she must have got enough from the half-acre to have buried herself ten feet deep in; but she glared at us and went on grabbing them anyway. The heat alone was enough to stop everything else. It was so hot the freighters pulled out alongside the road and crawled under their wagons, waiting for sundown. The ground burned through heavy-soled shoes. Moccasined Indians refused to set foot to it at all. There wasn't a sign of life—no birds, no cattle, not even any dogs. Nothing but Mrs. Broyles going back and forth between her house and the wild gooseberry patch.

V

The heat, instead of slowing her up, made her stubborner. In the morning, when it was cool, I had been able to drum her out only by raising a regular expedition. From the heat of the day until dark I didn't have to bother about her at all. Her face flushed to a dark red, like a flint boulder in a creek-bed, she went through the operation of dismounting, lugging her buckets to dump, mounting again and reining her horse into the white, dusty road as if it was a kind of mechanical drill. Her horse didn't think so. He hauled his feet along through the dust as if getting them off the ground was beyond his strength. It began to look like a test, not of Mrs. Broyles's endurance, but of his. Every trip I looked for him to keel over.

But Mrs. Broyles quit first—not in the heat, either, but about sundown. Dismounting, she caught her foot and fell, hanging from the stirrup with her cheek in the road and grains of dust moving in and out of her nostrils. I might have loosened her myself, but I was afraid she would come to and catch me at it. So I called my mother, telling her, because I was panicky, that I had baited Mrs. Broyles into working herself to death. I forgot to mention the other youngsters who had helped, and I told the whole thing all over again to the neighbors who helped carry Mrs. Broyles into her house.

Everything in it was full of gooseberries. Even the washtubs were heaped full, and, on an oilcloth in the middle of the floor

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there was an oozing pile as high as a man's waist. Odd gobs of pulp and puddles of red juice were spilled and striddled from one end of the house to the other. The neighbors waded about through the mess, applying what sunstroke remedies they knew, and agreeing, while they waited for the doctor from Grass Valley, that it was children like me that kept the penitentiaries from going out of business. Not one of them had been on speaking terms with Mrs. Broyles, and most of them had been frightened to death of her. There was the wild-onion milk that they had all been throwing out and scolding about, too; yet they glared at me as if I had destroyed something without which it would be impossible for them to live. It was the most outrageous piece of devilment they had ever heard of in their lives. The place for me was the reform school. Making this poor old thing work so in all that heat!

All I could do was to hope, silently, that Mrs. Broyles would suddenly come to and sit up while they sat there calling her a poor old thing. But she didn't do it, and the doctor from Grass Valley, who got in early in the morning, said she that never would.

"She's out," he said. "Too weak. Too old. Been keeping up too hard a clip for a long time, I'd say. . . . What in the name of hell is this stuff?"

It looked like blood, but it was nothing but gooseberry pulp. The neighbors explained how it had got there, and that I was to blame for the whole thing. To my astonishment, the doctor thought it was funny. Applying human contrariness to produce real horsepower was no slouch of an idea, he said. Then, seeing I was about ready to break down and bawl, he consoled me.

"Don't mind it, kid," he said. "Old women like that always pile up against some job that they can't do. I've had 'em fall over trying to maul fence-posts, when they belonged in some institution for the infirm. She'd have clocked out some other way if you hadn't been here."

He told about a list of other old women who had killed themselves trying to accomplish impossible stints of work. It was common to cow-town widows, alone and with no way to keep tab on their strength or measure what they had to do with it, to kill themselves trying to do more than they could. The old lady Glisan played that game in trying to make something out of her son, who murdered her. That was direct. Mrs. Broyles's death was not. Picking three hundred acres of gooseberries would have been easier to do than making something of Bill Glisan; but she had died attempting a harder job than that —the job of making everything agree with what Trumpeter Broyles had told her, of living as if his word was good, as if all he had yelled in his fitty and conceited rages were not fittiness or conceit, but the final and majestic truth. That had landed her in loneliness, and loneliness had made her take on the job of cleaning out the half-section of gooseberries. I wasn't to blame at all. If it hadn't been that, it would have been something else; the doctor was right, and she was better off dead anyway.

But that was no consolation to me then. The doctor had more sense than the neighbors did, and everything he said to comfort me was the intelligent truth; but my own conscience was with the people who told me I belonged in the reform school, and that I was more dangerous than a drunk Indian. Reasonable or not, the neighbors were right to accuse me. Looking at the dead woman, I wanted to accuse somebody myself; and since there was nobody, I sat down in the red gooseberry pulp on the floor and bawled.

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HE HATED SOUTHERN GENTLEMEN

BY LLOYD LEWIS

THE first of December, 1851, was a dark day for Southern fire-eaters, although none of them apparently realized it at the time. To all appearances the weather in their brightest heaven, the United States Senate, was still calm and fair as they set about organizing the house in what had come to be the traditional Dixie manner. But in reality two clouds had come up over the horizon—clouds that for all their apparent lightness, were packed with storm and thunder.

Two new Senators walked to the front and took the oath of office, two Northerners, fit only for the polite contempt of Southern gentlemen who had been born to rule the chamber. One, a forty-year-old Apollo, answering to the name of Charles Sumner, appeared to be too intent upon his pompadour ever to fill seemingly those shoes of Daniel Webster into which he was stepping. The other, Benjamin Franklin Wade, just an old judge from Ohio, was even less impressive as he stood there, heavy, glum, and square, lifting a right hand that had been flattened by axe- and shovel-handles. A self-made, untutored yokel, he was whispered to be, and innocent enough to have brought his squirrel-rifle with him to Washington.

Further than to assign the newcomers to the tail-ends of minor committees, the fire-eaters paid them no heed, which, although an error, was quite natural. Southern gentlemen had been ruling the Senate since the first days of the Republic, and they felt it to be their hereditary Olympus, upon which Northerners and Westerners must be always ill at ease and more or less apologetic. Pointed from infancy toward statecraft, the scions of the Dixie aristocracy believed Senatorial togas to be their hereditary costume and the Senate Chamber the predestined theatre of their performance. In the House of Representatives, the home of commoner men, presumptuous and vulgar Yankees, such as Thad Stevens and Owen Lovejoy, might criticize and even denounce the Slave Power, but nothing so *gauche* could happen in the Senate. There even, the best of Northern and Western leaders, even Webster, Douglas and Clay, had come, in the end, to admit the Cavalier supremacy. At any rate, they had acted so, scurrying to fix up compromises that would wheedle the fire-eaters from walking out of the Union. The Supreme Court, too, obeyed the South. As for the Presidency, hadn't it been held by one Southern man or another for forty out of its sixty-two years?

No, there seemed no cause for worry in 1851, even if John C. Calhoun, king of the Southern spokesmen, had been a year in his grave. In his seat was Robert B. Rhett, South Carolina's chief baiter of Northern Abolitionists and editor of the Charleston *Mercury*, the principal organ of the Dixie extremists. Jefferson Davis was there from Mississippi, as was Henry C. Foote, who had fought Benton of Missouri a splendid fist-fight on the floor of the Senate. All these men were Southerners first, Whigs or Democrats afterwards. Some of them were amiable, tolerant; more of them were fire-eaters. All were intent upon teaching the North to keep its grubby hands off the divine institution of slavery.

To match them the opposition had nobody. Webster had become Secretary of

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State. Clay, the Kentucky Unionist, was there in his seat for no more than the opening day, a toothless tiger now, seventy-four years old, a mere six months of life left in him. Stephen A. Douglas, of Illinois, was buzzing around, tickling the slave-owners with a feather, dreaming of the Presidency. Douglas was no menace to the aristocrats. He might have ability, but Benton had polished him off one day while watching the Little Giant go down the street. "No, sir!" mused Benton loudly, "he'll never be President. The seat of his pants is too close to the ground!"

Indeed, the entire North had the seat of its pants very near to the dust in 1851. The Southern breathers of flame ran over the Yankee Senators mercilessly, saying what they liked about Northern money-chasers and mudsills. The fact that the Northerners scorned the duello as beneath them only convicted them of cowardice in the eyes of the Southerners, who took advantage of the situation to abuse them with intoxicating freedom. The four Northerners who had openly opposed them on the slavery issue, Hale of New Hampshire, Chase of Ohio, Hamlin of Maine and Seward of New York, were all comparatively new men, and meek under castigation. Seward, brightest of the four, stood in the cloak-room door, smoking big cigars and smiling philosophically whenever he was the target. He was thought to be a coward.

So the session of 1851 began, as of old, with the Southerners reveling in the old game of flaying the plebeian North. On an early day a Dixie patrician took up, for the luxuriant amusement of his colleagues, the subject of Ohio, a land of uncivilized backwoods louts, lowly enough to help niggers escape their masters. One gleaming sentence he concluded with the phrase "nigger-thieves."

At this point an incredible thing happened. From somewhere a voice bellowed, "You're a liar!"

The Southerner swayed on his feet as if struck by lightning. Senators everywhere turned in amazement to see who had been so lunatic. Rubbing their eyes, they saw that the offense had been committed by the innocent old judge from Ohio. He must have talked in his sleep! But no, there he sat, leveling at the fire-eater the meanest glare anyone present had ever seen, a wicked pair of small, black eyes and a hard, hard jaw.

A Northern bounder had dared to call a Southern gentleman a liar! As if coming out of a dream, the Senators from Dixie swarmed around their colleague to keep him from assassinating the insolent puppy on the spot. A few anti-slavery men scrambled up to protect Ben Wade, but the judge simply sat there, unwinking, waiting.

That night delegations felt him out. Would he fight if challenged?

"I am here," he answered coldly, "in a double capacity. I represent the State of Ohio and I represent Ben Wade. As a Senator I am opposed to dueling, but as Ben Wade I recognize the code. I say your friend is a foul-mouthed old blackguard, but you will find that he will never notice what I have said. I will not be asked for retraction, explanation or fight."

That night all Washington talked of the new Senator from Ohio. The fire-eaters were aghast. Over the city went the appalling whisper that the innocent frontiersman hadn't brought his rifle to Washington to shoot squirrels but to shoot Southern gentlemen!

Suspicion deepened into conviction as scouts collected information about the fellow. He was rough and coarse, they learned, an ornery old skeptic, profane, blunt, contemptuous of romance and oratory, cynical, fearless, rigidly Abolitionist, no respecter of persons—and, one of the best rifle-shots in the Northwest. All eyes were on him as he walked to his seat the next morning, and all eyes popped as he calmly drew two pistols from his pocket, placed them in his desk, and sat down as though to say, "I'm ready."

As he had prophesied, nothing more was said of a challenge and the matter dropped,

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but something had happened to the spirits of men in the Senate. From that moment the anti-slavery cause looked up and the road of Southern aristocrats went downhill. In future all pro-slavery orators were to be more or less flustered when they arose to abuse the North, and never as confident as of old, for at any moment Ben Wade might rush and rough them. His method was to affront a speaker and let it go at that. If the aggrieved party felt like fighting, there was the news of that cold-barreled squirrel-rifle to sober him down. The Southerners might learn how to answer the other Abolitionist Senators who now followed Wade's lead, but they never learned how to handle the old judge himself.

II

For that matter, no one had ever managed him. He had come to the heights along hard ways. Born the tenth child of a Revolutionary veteran in Massachusetts in 1800, he had grown up on manual labor, poverty and sparse schooling, a Roundhead boy destined by life, birth and ancestry to deal the Cavaliers prodigious wallops. Puritan to the last drop was his blood, his maternal grandfather having been the Rev. Michael Wigglesworth, who at Malden in 1633 composed that celebrated poem, "The Day of Doom," one of the chief documents of New England evangelism. As a boy Ben Wade is said to have learned it by heart and to have rattled it off upon occasion, although the occasions could not have been frequent, for when, in later life, he came to the necessity of speaking in public, he was, in the beginning, the most blundering and confused of orators. Nevertheless, "The Day of Doom" could not have made the boy tender of mind, for it was a solemn and ferocious picture of a hard-hearted Jehovah dooming the unbaptized to everlasting torment:

> But get away without delay,
> Christ pities not your cry,
> Depart to Hell; there may you dwell
> And roar eternally.

It would be easy to overestimate "The Day of Doom" in explaining the savagery with which Ben Wade, as a man, assailed the "sin" of slavery. His training may have made him stern, but it did not make him religious, for in adulthood he was a skeptic, possibly an atheist, and his infidelism was an issue against him in his political life.

Emigrating, with the family, to Ohio in 1821, he speedily cut loose for himself, a bold, independent boy, roaming the country as a cattle-drover, working as a ditch-digger on the Erie canal, teaching school, studying medicine (unsuccessfully) in Albany, and settling down, at twenty-five, to study law in Ohio. At thirty-one he was a partner of the mighty Joshua R. Giddings, idol of the midland Abolitionists.

Laboriously acquiring the knack of speaking to crowds and juries, Wade shared Giddings' fat law practice and followed him into politics, graduating from county attorney to State senator and to judge, arriving at the last station in 1847. Giddings' influence led him to become a bull in the china shop wherein Ohio was striving so delicately to keep peace with the neighboring slave States. Ruthlessly he badgered the State into nullifying the laws which made it every Ohioan's duty to catch all runaway slaves and return them to their old Kentucky homes.

Single-handed in 1842, he crammed through the Legislature a bill to found a college, eventually Oberlin, where Negroes might be educated along with whites. Although the anti-slavery population of Ohio was in the minority, his popularity captured even those citizens who looked upon the Abolition cause with indifference. In the first place, he was relentlessly honest. When the firm of Giddings & Wade went bankrupt in the national panic of 1837, both men ignored the refuge of the bankruptcy laws and paid off their debts. Wade, in particular, seized the fancy of all the younger men. Budding lawyers worshipped him. He fitted the frontier notion of a man, scorning good manners as effem-

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inate, diplomats as liars, gentlemen as poseurs. Says his biographer, A. G. Riddle: "Young men combed their hair back over their heads as he did. Where he was merely frank and abrupt, they became coarse and rough; where he indulged in stronger English, they became profane. In a few years the bar of Northern Ohio was invaded by rude, swearing caricatures of the strong magnetic man."

As a judge, Wade seems to have been able. The upper courts seldom reversed him. Once when they did so, he reheard the case, decided it as before, and sent it back with the remark, "I'll give them another chance to get it right." They did.

When small cases appeared on his docket over and over without settlement, he would slap the amount at issue on the bar, saying, "Here, I'll pay the damn thing myself!"

Immensely scornful of women, as of all things of grace, Ben was suddenly bowled over, in his forty-first year, by the face of a girl rapturously upturned in a political crowd that listened to him in Ashtabula. He married her, but, so far as anyone noted, Caroline Rosekrans did not soften him toward life. He loved to sit of evenings and listen to her read, but on the street he was the same old Ben Wade, banging into offices, barging past barriers, getting what he wanted.

This was the man who came to the United States Senate in 1851 and characteristically made a thunderous début with his abrupt "You're a liar!" Never a respecter of tradition, he smashed precedents right and left. He became that rarest of Senators, a leader in his first term. He thumbed his nose at all claims of seniority, gentility and polity. With Sumner, he began poking into the tenderest parts of the slavery issue, which all the party leaders wanted hushed in order that the dividing nation might heal its sores under the salve of the recent compromises. While Sumner assailed the slave-holders with lofty righteousness, Wade began pushing them around, treating them rough, flouting them.

Nor was it only on Southerners that he loosed his caustic tongue. Stephen A. Douglas, kowtowing to slavery, found him most unpleasant. Once, when the Little Giant remarked on the floor that "the gentleman from Ohio entertains a different code of morals from myself," Wade snorted, "Morals? My God, I hope so!" At another time, when the Senate had been listening to Douglas tearing his heart over some evil or other for hours, Wade suddenly spoke up with, "Well, what are you going to do about it?" Douglas turned red and sat down.

It was another jolt from Wade that so critical an observer as Judge Jeremiah Black thought "the most effective single blow ever dealt a man, a cause or an argument in the history of Congress." Senator George E. Badger of North Carolina was up this day, singing what, seventy-five years later, would be called a mammy song. Piteously he bemoaned the fact that brutal Northerners would forbid Southerners to take their slaves with them into the free territories of Kansas and Nebraska. What an outrage it was, he said, that he, who longed to emigrate to the West, could not take his dear old black mammy with him—the old mammy who had nursed him, raised him, cared for him like a mother! How could the North tear them apart? All but in tears he was producing a most sentimental effect when Wade broke in with, "We're willing for you to take your old mammy with you, but we're afraid that when you get her there *you'll sell her!*" Badger went down like Douglas.

To Senator Dixon of Kentucky, who ridiculed him for believing a Negro the equal of a white man, Wade snapped, "By the law of God Almighty, *your* slave is *your* equal, as you'll find out at the Day of Judgment, though probably not before—at your rate of progress." Senator Butler of South Carolina was interrupted, in his oration on the Negroes' love for their masters, with, "Yes, they love you so well you have to have a Fugitive Slave Law to bring 'em back!" Senator Clayton of Dela-

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ware, wounded by characteristic thrusts, talked of challenging the old judge, but, on hearing that Wade was polishing his squirrel-rifle, gave up the idea.

Nettling, hectoring and rushing the fire-eaters with his interruptions, queries, belittlements, Wade expanded into short, impromptu orations in which he warned the South not to bully the Northern people. There was in his speech, the tread, already, of the midland farmers who would form Grant's and Sherman's legions, they who broke the back of Secession. And as always, behind him in the Middle West were rough supporters who, although not yet quite ready for Abolition, liked to see him blow up the Southern aristocrats. The multiplying anti-slaverites knew him for their own as surely as they knew Charles Sumner, even if Wade was too thrifty to put any money into the underground railroad which helped fugitive slaves to Canada. He was, by nature, economical to say the least, although once, when a Negro boy came to him begging for funds with which to buy his freedom, he growled, "I never give to such causes; but why don't you run away? Here's ten dollars for expenses."

III

As a hero of the frontier people he reached his zenith on May 23, 1856, the day after a tinder-headed South Carolinian, Preston C. Brooks, had beaten Charles Sumner into insensibility at his desk on the Senate floor. The affair was a national issue overnight. War trembled in the balance, with the South crying that Brooks had taught the insolent Yankee to keep his foul tongue off Southern people, and with the North crying that Brooks' assault was typical of the degeneracy of a civilization which talked of honor and yet used the pistol and bludgeon to settle its quarrels.

Vituperation passed back and forth as the Senate met the next day to consider the matter. Robert C. Toombs, of Georgia, wildest and probably ablest of the fire-eaters, certainly their captain at this session, arose and defended Brooks' attack. As he sat down, up bolted Ben Wade. "When an assassin-like, cowardly attack has been made on an unarmed man," he bellowed, "powerless to defend himself and almost murdered, and such attacks are approved by Senators, it becomes a question of interest to the minority. . . . If the principle now here announced prevails, let us come armed for the contest, and although you are four to one, *I am here to meet you!*"

As he spoke he bent toward Toombs his ugliest stare, and as he took his seat the whole Senate felt that now, at last, he would receive the challenge which he had courted so long. Certainly Toombs, the touchiest of Southerners, must fight him. After the session he was asked by Southern men if he would accept when the challenge came. Certainly! What weapons would he name? Rifles at thirty paces. "You fellows," he added, "have broken Sumner's head and we must spunk up or you'll break all our heads. The shortest way is to kill off a few of you and I've picked on old Toombs. He'll have to challenge me. I'll take my old squirrel rifle and, damn me, if I don't bring him down at the first crack."

Again the menace of that squirrel-rifle hung over Washington as Wade sat for two days in his home, waiting for the challenge. On the third day he returned to his desk, felt a hand on his shoulder, and looked up into the face of Toombs. "Wade," said the fire-eater, "what's the use of two men making damned fools of themselves?"

But old Ben did not stop with this temporary victory. With Chandler of Michigan, hard-mouthed Zachariah Chandler, and Simon Cameron of Pennsylvania he swore a pact of death. Whenever a Southern Senator affronted the Northern people the three were to send him challenges. "We will carry the quarrel into the coffin," they swore, and the news of their vow got around. "The tone of Southerners modified at once," said Wade, recalling it later.

Secession, growing ever heavier in the

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air, could not come soon enough for him. To him it was inevitable; all that he wanted was to make it plain to the seceders that there would be a terrific fight. To Senators who threatened to leave the Union, he adopted the policy of extending his hand and booming, "Good-bye! Don't wait on my account!" That his attitude hastened the war cannot be doubted, for always he tormented the aristocrats. Realistic in the extreme, bald and coarse in his practicality, he would not permit the Dixie romanticists to speak with the floweriness, finesse and grace which they felt to be so basic a part of their lives. He hated such things as much as he hated jewelry.

When the break came in 1861 he was ready for it, wasting no time on reconciliation and, indeed, helping to kill the last-minute Crittenden Compromise. On the day of the first battle, Bull Run, outside Washington, he put his squirrel-rifle into a carriage and drove out to the field. Perhaps after all, he would get a chance to shoot a Southern gentleman. But it was his own Northerners that prevented it, thousands of them sweeping him backward in a rout toward Washington. When the road narrowed between impassable forests, he turned his carriage across it, marshaled his party in a thin line, set his hat down over his ears and flattened his jaw against the butt of his rifle.

"Boys, we'll stop this damned runaway!" he roared; and stop it he did, holding the flood until organized troops relieved him. Fear-crazed fugitives backed away from his muzzle, more terrorized by it than by the whole Confederate army, which they mistakenly believed to be at their heels. On the way back to Washington, he blued the air with curses. So he became the one hero of Bull Run, the one Northerner who had done something on that awful day. How much greater a hero he would have been in Northern history if he had died on the field, ringed 'round with the bodies of Southern colonels!

No such luck! The days were done when he could stand out like a Charles the Hammer, hurling back the foe. His work of slaughtering fire-eaters was now taken over by the army. To replace his long, lone rifle there appeared a million muskets.

IV

Moreover, he had the misfortune, during the war, to be measured, not against fire-eaters, but against Abraham Lincoln. Himself a defeated aspirant for the Republican presidential nomination in 1860, he was opposed to Lincoln on other scores. The man in the White House was too slow, too gentle with the enemy, put too many Northern Democrats in office, was too backward about freeing the slaves, too weak to confiscate rebel property. Was he pro-slave at heart? Wade wondered.

When Lincoln ignored Congress in making his plans for reconstructing the South Wade called him a tyrant and sneered at Senators who "waited for the royal pleasure" before voting. "Our system of government is a failure," he growled, "Congress and the judiciary are only instruments in the hands of the Executive."

Finally, when Lincoln killed the Radicals' vengeful plan of Reconstruction, Wade broke loose in the most amazing performance in the history of party politics. Uniting with Henry Winter Davis of Maryland, Lincoln's fiercest Republican foe in the lower House, the old Senator issued the famous Wade-Davis Manifesto, which, appearing at the height of the presidential campaign, assailed the head of the ticket as a usurper who, swollen with personal ambition, "strides headlong into anarchy." So thunderous was the blast that it overshot its mark, rallied the voters to Lincoln, and knocked Davis out of his seat in Congress. Wade, standing for reëlection in Ohio, lost his constituents and was reelected by Democratic legislators who evidently thought him a better troublemaker for the administration than any Democrat they might select.

Lincoln, who knew all that Wade knew of retort, but who made his replies with

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humor, deflated the old judge upon occasion as the judge had deflated the Southerners. Once, when the Radicals' uproar was at its tensest, Wade left his office in the Capitol and stamped the long mile to the White House to abuse Lincoln. Butting his way into the President's study, he announced, "This government is drifting to hell!"

"Yes, Senator," answered Lincoln dryly, "it's only about a mile from there this minute."

As he spoke, he pointed a long forefinger at the window, through which could be seen the Capitol dome against the sky. Wade went back to his office. Whether the story be fact or legend it matters not, for it points a sad truth; the bellower who had deafened the fire-eaters was worsted by a man with a drawl.

Baffled and sore, Wade, dominating powerful committees, harassed Lincoln throughout the war. At the end, when Lincoln adroitly put all the surrendering Southern gentlemen out of Radical reach, he was beside himself. The worst of it was that Lincoln had four more years to serve, years in which, Wade feared, the reviving South would reunite with Northern Copperheads to rule again.

Then came the stroke which must have made even skeptical old Ben Wade believe in the Jehovah of the Rev. Michael Wigglesworth. Lincoln was murdered and Andrew Johnson, bitter enemy of Southern aristocrats, took the helm. Old Ben, seizing the new President's hand, exulted: "By the gods, we'll have no trouble running the government now!" Later he was advising Johnson, "I would hang or exile ten or twelve of those fellows [the Confederate leaders]. I think I could make it thirteen, just a baker's dozen."

Although named an honorary pallbearer at Lincoln's funeral, he did not attend, his friends explaining that he hated the excesses of funeral woe. More likely, the reason lay in his traditional desire "to carry the quarrel into the coffin."

But his joy over Lincoln's death was short. His enemy refused somehow to stay in the tomb. The dead President's gentle scheme for reconstructing the South stole back to capture Johnson, and as Johnson vetoed, one after another, the cruel measures which Congress prepared for "the conquered territories," Wade turned frenzied fanatic. Even those Senators who had forgiven his harshness for the sake of the iron strength he had supplied to Union spirit during the war now thought him only malignant and brutal. Shame left him. Once, when the Radicals were massing to override Johnson's veto of their oppressive Civil Rights Bill, delay was asked to permit a sick Johnson-man to arrive in time to vote. Wade objected. "If God Almighty has stricken one member so that he cannot be here to uphold the dictation of a despot," he roared, "I thank Him for His interposition, and I will take advantage of it if I can."

What he, with the other Radicals, was plotting now was the removal of Johnson. And it was Ben Wade himself who was waiting to take the Presidency. As president *pro tem* of the Senate and acting Vice-President of the United States he was next in succession. Let him sit in the White House and the Southern gentlemen might indeed despair!

The impeachment trial came on, and the old judge, now sixty-seven years old, white of hair and eye-brows, sat waiting with a harder light than ever in his cold, black, unwinking eyes. Brazenly he counted himself already in the White House and openly arranged his Cabinet. Unless he won this goal he was through, for Ohio had soured of his venom and elected another man to fill his shoes the coming December. If he could grasp the Presidency there would be time, in the remaining year of the term, to juggle patronage so that he might assure himself of the vice-presidential nomination at least, in the 1868 campaign. But by now he was his own worst enemy. His reptilian hate boomeranged as it had in the days of the Wade-Davis Manifesto. As he had then strength-

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ened Lincoln, so now he strengthened Johnson. Many a Republican Senator, wavering which way to vote on impeachment, shuddered to think of vicious old Ben in the White House. His character helped Johnson. Impeachment failed by one vote.

So Ben Wade missed the Presidency. He sat a little longer in the Senate which he had bullied for seventeen years. His enemies, Lincoln, Johnson and the Southern gentlemen were all down, dead or ruined, but what was he? Only another lame-duck of Washington. He was out of it when, at last, Radical Reconstruction descended full force upon the Southern people. He had to watch the torturing from the chamber door. All he could do was cry the oppressors on. He even agreed to stump Ohio for Grant, whom he distrusted. Hadn't Grant said, "Let us have peace"? Privately, Wade dismissed him with a sneer. "Whenever I'd talk politics, he'd talk horses." Still, Republican success would mean a Radical Congress.

In 1870 prissy Schuyler Colfax, the Vice-President, recommended Wade as a lobbyist to Jay Cooke, and it is probable that he did some work for this ill-starred financier. He became, too, attorney for the Northern Pacific Railroad. Hot human issues, however bitter, ceased to dominate him.

Finally, he lent himself to Grant's childish imperialistic dream of annexing Santo Domingo, and headed an investigating committee that visited the island and reported favorably upon the grab. On board ship he was the same testy autocrat as of old, storming at "the crazy buggists" who, as the scientific section of the commission, delayed the homeward voyage while they collected tropical plants.

He simmered slowly down, living until 1878. But just before the end his old spirit flared. Rutherford B. Hayes, stepping into the Presidency, began to loose the chains of Reconstruction. The Radicals had spent their venom. A new day had come. But Ben Wade was still blind. Savagely he lashed out at Hayes for his mercy, denouncing him as he had denounced Lincoln and Johnson, but his words only reëchoed back at him in his own death-chamber.

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WHITMAN AS HIS OWN PRESS-AGENT

BY EMORY HOLLOWAY

YEARS ago, in a newspaper, I ran across a casual allusion to Walt Whitman's having been at one time connected with Alexander H. Shephard's Washington *Chronicle*. When recently the opportunity arrived for running the matter down, I found that the writer had his facts somewhat mixed. The *Chronicle* was friendly to Whitman and appears to have printed articles from his pen, anonymously; but it was never owned by Shephard. Yet Shephard was one of the owners of the Washington *Evening Star*, which, about 1870, was a sturdy champion of the poet.

The first editions of "Leaves of Grass" had no publisher except the author, who, to make headway against the prevailing ridicule and indifference, found it advisable to act as his own press-agent. Accordingly, he explained his new verse, not only in a classic preface to the poems themselves, but also through anonymous reviews in various newspapers. Throughout his remaining years he continued to exert an influence on what his friends, at least, should print about him. His guiding or restraining hand in the books by Burroughs, Bucke, and Traubel, for instance, is well known. Though he was pretty well advertised, if not widely read, by 1869, through the sale of the 1860 and 1867 editions, and the laudation of his friends Burroughs and O'Connor, he did not feel satisfied with the headway he was making with American critics. He saw no better way to remedy matters than to keep before the public eye the image of the picturesque personage of whom the book was an expression.

This he did in many indirect ways. Sometimes he would criticize himself, or merely describe himself, in the third person, inserting little harmless phrases of doubt or criticism as a smoke-screen to conceal his authorship; or he would write something purporting to be an interview with himself; again, he would quote morsels from friendly European reviews. It is hard to tell just how many of the editorials about him in the *Star* and the *Chronicle* were directly inspired by him or how many were actually written by him, though in one or two cases we have, not only internal evidence as a guide, but the copy in his own manuscript. There is no such manuscript of the following, so far as I know, but it can hardly fail to impress the reader who is intimately acquainted with his style as coming from his pen. It appeared in the *Chronicle* on Sunday, May 9, 1869.

> Walt Whitman, the poet, will complete the fiftieth year of his age the current May 31, 1869, having been born on that date, 1819. His friends in New York, Brooklyn, and elsewhere, will be pleased to learn that, on the verge of becoming half a centenarian, he retains his accustomed health, eats his rations regularly, and keeps his weight well toward 190 pounds.
>
> Of the poetical merits and demerits of the subject of our item, concerning which the contest still rages in literary circles, we desire to say nothing. We will only mention here, for what it is worth, the judgment of a late German critic,[1] (Mr. Whitman's poetry has been translated and published in Germany), who characterizes him as "the most radically *Christian* and *Socratic* poet of any modern writer," inasmuch as he adopts for the chief reliance and ground-plan of individual and public excellence the elements of friendship, personal purity, and disinterestedness, the cultivation of "the inner light," and the like; and also in

[1] Ferdinand Freiligrath, in the Augsburg *Allgemeine Zeitung*, May 10, 1868. Freiligrath introduced Whitman to the Germans.

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his treatment of the whole material frame of things, in its particulars and in its aggregate, as but the gateway, through death and decay, to spiritual existence, the only substantial one, and the purport, according to him, of all material objects and persons, and also the true key to all science.

We may add that the poems, "Leaves of Grass," originally published in New York about fourteen years ago, and since added to, and republished time and again in various cities, are still considered unfinished by their author. But we understand that the collection, revised, and including his new verses on religious themes, and forming probably the final digest and edition of the book, will be printed the ensuing Summer. "Democratic Vistas," a small prose book, will also be published during the Summer.

The article then proceeds to a more personal tone:

Mr. Whitman, at the present date, continues to occupy a third-class clerkship in the Attorney-General's office, where, since the close of the war, he has been employed successively under Attorney-Generals Speed, Stanbery, Bowning, Evarts, and Hoar. An inveterate pedestrian, and, like a true Greek, living much in the open air, he has long become a familiar figure in our city, and amid the varied and picturesque scenery of the District.

In times past, in New York, he frequented the top of the Broadway omnibuses, and became a well-known pet of the drivers. Here he has to content himself with the platform of the street-cars, often riding out to Georgetown, or to the Eastern Branch. On Pennsylvania avenue or Seventh street or Fourteenth street, or perhaps of a Sunday, along the suburban roads toward Rock creek, or across on Arlington Heights, or up the shores of the Potomac, you will meet moving along at a firm but moderate pace, a robust figure, six feet high, costumed in blue or gray, with drab hat, broad shirt-collar, gray-white beard, full and curly, face like a red apple, blue eyes, and a look of animal health more indicative of hunting or boating than the department office or author's desk. Indeed the subject of our item, in his verse, his manners, and even his philosophy, evidently draws from, and has reference to, the influences of the sea and sky and woods and prairies, with their laws, and man in his relation to them; while neither the conventional parlor nor library has cast its spells upon him.

Possessing singular personal magnetism, and frequently beloved at sight, yet Walt Whitman's nonchalance, large adhesiveness,[2] and a certain silent defiance both in his poetry and appearance, have long laid him open to caricature and sarcastic criticism. Then there have been imputations of a virulent description, such as ignorance, drunkenness, and lust, to which mental aberration and moral obliquity have been strenuously added. Very little, however, do these charges trouble the subject of them.

[2] A phrenological term which Whitman was fond of using to designate a personal attraction between men that is stronger than ordinary friendship. The "Calamus" poems celebrate it.

"In early years," said Mr. Whitman, lately in conversation, "I suffered much at the fate of being misrepresented and misunderstood—at the lies of enemies and still more the complacent fatuity of those I loved. But I see now that it is no detriment to a hardy character, but is perhaps the inevitable price of freedom, and a vigorous training and growth; and that even slanders mean something to every real student of himself, and as it were betray to the commander of the fort where his embankments are openest to the enemy, and most need strengthening and the guard."

There are numerous pictures, frontispieces, photographic, and other pretended likenesses of Walt Whitman, whose great bulky head, wooly beard, carmine cheeks, and open throat attract the artists. Most of these pictures are bad, some of them comically monstrous (as in Hotten's London edition of Walt Whitman's poems). Mr. Gardiner, on Seventh street, however, has a capital photo, taken in 1863. Messrs. Seybold & Tarisse, on the Avenue, below Sixth, have a good head, just taken, very strong in shade and light. William Kurtz, New York, has two or three noble photos. Charles Hine, the artist, same city, has a fine portrait in oil, life size.

II

Since Lowell's publication of Whitman's "Bardic Symbols" in the *Atlantic Monthly* nearly a score of years before, nothing from the latter's pen had found a welcome there, until, in February, 1869, he placed "Proud Music of the Sea Storm" for one hundred dollars. The manuscript was presented to the editor, James T. Fields, not directly, but through Emerson, who, according to Whitman, had offered his services in the matter. The incident has interest as showing both the relation of Whitman and Emerson at the time and the precaution Whitman was taking not to have the poem rejected by the magazine which was more or less the arbiter of literary elegance in America. Nor did he lose any time in capitalizing his success, if we may judge by the comment of the *Star* on January 18, probably before the magazine was on the Washington news-stands:

The claims of Walt Whitman to the position of a poet are so far recognized by the literary set in Boston, who consider their *dicta* supreme law in matters pertaining to letters, that the *Atlantic* for February contains a long poem from his sturdy pen, and one of the very best, to our notion, that he has yet written. Between *Blackwood* and the *Atlantic* he is now pretty well endorsed on both continents—a circumstance that may be very

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gratifying to his friends, but which, we suspect, matters very little to him.

During the editorship of Professor Bliss Perry the *Atlantic* printed a number of things about Whitman, but during the last ten years I have had several articles on the poet returned with a courteous announcement that the magazine was closed to all articles about him. Whitman wished the public to believe him as indifferent to criticism, friendly or hostile, as the great poet he had described in his verse—an answerer of the profound questions of life, but not one to notice a critical attack. In the flush of his first inspiration he had boasted, with the boundless hope of youth:

I exist as I am, that is enough,
If no other in the world be aware I sit content,
And if each and all be aware I sit content.
One world is aware and by far the largest to me, and that is myself,
And whether I come to my own to-day or in ten thousand or ten million years,
I can cheerfully take it now, and with equal cheerfulness I can wait.

But if all the references to his indifference concerning fame to be found in the Washington papers were inspired by him, that indifference was rather too vocal and insistent to be convincing. When Bayard Taylor and others travestied his American Institute poem in 1871, the *Evening Star*, using information it could hardly have had except from Whitman or his friends, countered by citing the poet's influence abroad.

The newspapers still keep up their talk about Walt Whitman. Here now comes the announcement that Roberts Brothers, of Boston, are to publish his late American Institute utterance in small book form. From abroad, we learn that the English poet and critic, Roden Noel, of aristocratic and Lord Byron lineage, has prepared a lengthy review of Whitman for *Dark Blue*, the new Oxonian magazine.

The truth about Whitman, as author not only of this American Institute piece but all else, is that his contempt for the "poets" and "poetry" of the day, his presentation of thoughts and things at first hand instead of second or third hand, his sturdy and old-fashioned earnestness, and his unprecedented novelty, make him a capital target for the smart writers and the verbal fops engaged in manufacturing items and "criticism." Then besides, to be candid, Walt Whitman *is* a pretty hard nut to crack. His involved sentences, always hiding at least half their meaning, his kangaroo leaps as if from one crag to another, his appalling catalogues, (enough to stagger the bravest heart,) his unheard of demand for brains in the reader as well as in the thing read, and then his scornful silence, never explaining anything nor answering any attack, all lay him fairly open to be misunderstood, to slur, burlesque, and sometimes spiteful innuendo; and will probably continue to do so.

Like his own "Kosmos," he can be viewed from many and partial points of view, among the rest, from one or two whence he certainly appears gross, repellent, and dangerous. But his complete and permanent character—and that is the only just method of comprehending him—is nevertheless healthy, free, manly, attractive, and of a purity and strength almost beyond example. The basis of his principal poetry is the intuitional and emotional, actuated by what the phrenologists term self-esteem and adhesiveness. Like all revolutionists and founders, he himself will have to create the growth by which he is to be fully understood and accepted. This will be a slow and long work, but sure.

The reader who is familiar with Whitman's diction, phraseology, psychology and methods of anonymous self-defense will not be led by the candor of this passage hastily to assume that he had nothing to do with its composition. But the *Evening Star* took pains to present him in other lights than that of the misunderstood bard indifferent whether the laurel wreath should grace his good gray brow. Here is a little anecdote, from the issue of January 18, 1869, which I have never seen reprinted:

A moderate-sized oil painting has been placed in the window of Mohum & Bestor's store, on the Avenue to-day, that calls for special notice from all lovers of perfect art. It is called "The Cavalry Picket," and represents, in the midst of a lonesome Winter scene, probably in Virginia, in a bleak and freezing snow-storm, drifted, the ground white, a cavalry soldier, numbed and dead, fallen from his horse, extended on his back, a thin veil of snow drifted over his face, and the horse (a fine piece of drawing and painting) standing by, and peering over the dead soldier. The picture is by Mr. McLeod, of this city, and is a work that will make its own reputation.

We saw Walt Whitman standing before the window this morning, looking at it long. The tears fell down his cheeks, called forth by many sad reminiscences. "Write something about it," he said, "and tell the painter how profoundly it has affected me. I consider it, in its way, unsurpassed in all technical requirements, from the point of view of art merely. A typical incident of the great war; then mounting above, and spreading wide, it touches the universal human heart, and is as strong as it is manly and tender."

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Not long ago a leading dealer in autographs said to me: "American writers rank thus—Poe, Whitman, Hawthorne; for collectors will pay for their manuscripts in that order." He seriously urged using the manuscript prices current as an index of literary merit. The *Evening Star* must have been familiar with this yardstick for the measurement of genius, for, getting its facts from Whitman or his friends, it tried to show that Walt Whitman, Unlimited, was a going concern. For example:

> *Walt Whitman on a Gold Basis.*—The ever-increasing favor the American poet finds in Europe oddly contrasts with the treatment he has received in the past in his own country. No less striking a parallel is afforded between the offishness of publishers toward his writings here and the high pecuniary value set upon them by the same class abroad. For the group of poems from his pen, entitled "Whispers of Heavenly Death," which appeared in the last number of the English *Broadway Magazine*, the proprietors paid Mr. Whitman twenty-five dollars a page *in gold*. This amounts to about seventy-five dollars in currency for the whole—the composition occupying two[*sic*] pages of the magazine. It is needless to add that no other poet except Tennyson commands such a price in England.

When the Philadelphia *Bulletin* asserted that Whitman "never had an income of over $900 a year," the *Evening Star*, joining battle on the facts, replied:

> Oh, yes. The Blue Book puts him down: "W. Whitman, New York. Clerk, Attorney-General's office. Salary, $1600."

Though Whitman had been receiving this salary for five years, this information seems to have struck the current journalistic mind as having news value, for in September, 1871, the New York *Evening Post* ran the following:

> Walt Whitman receives a salary of $1600 a year as clerk in the office of the Attorney-General and is said to be the richest man in Washington, because he never wants what he does not have. His philosophy is better than his poetry.

III

But Whitman did want what he did not have—increasing recognition at home, if not for himself at least for his poetry. He thought he was beginning to get it when he was invited to deliver a commencement poem at Dartmouth in 1872; but though he conquered when he came, Professor Bliss Perry has shown that the invitation itself was a student joke at the expense of a rather conservative faculty. Whitman used the occasion not only to send copies to the press but to write an anonymous eulogy of his poem for a newspaper, though we do not know that it saw print. However, the *Evening Star's* leader on the Dartmouth poem is so full of Whitmanisms of thought, expression and even punctuation, as to convince me that either Whitman wrote it or someone so familiar with "Democratic Vistas" as to have caught both the gist of its meaning and its style. Here, in part, is the article:

> Peculiar in literary form, echoing Whitman's fervid patriotism for the whole country, and totally unlike the classic or sentimental reminiscences of such occasions, its key-note seems to be an earnest conviction that the loftiest and most binding union and truest pride and glory of the United States (after the establishment of their material interests, which he thinks already permanently provided for,) are to be sought in new moral, patriotic, national literary development, on a scientific and spiritual basis, and always with a realizing sense of physical health, and finest and handsomest offspring.
>
> For Walt Whitman, as we understand, while he admits the merits of the scientific and journalistic press of the day, avowedly views the whole tribe of poets and novelists with contempt. His notion is that for imaginative purposes the modern time, and the United States especially, can only fitly express and justify their vital and characteristic elements by new and native lyric, artistic, and even religious forms, and that, for present and future use, current poetry, art and ecclesiasticisms, however serviceable for their time in Europe and the past, are impotent for America, and incompatible with her genius.

Similarly, in the preceding year, Whitman had been elated to receive an invitation from the managers of the American Institute to deliver an original poem at the opening of their annual fair in New York. Perhaps he did not know that Horace Greeley, the president of the Institute, was the regular attraction on opening day, but that busy with a presidential bee in his bonnet, the sage of Chappaqua was electioneering in the Middle West. Whitman came to New York and, on September 7,

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read his poem, "After All, Not to Create Only." Two days later, having found that much of the metropolitan press was disposed to make merry over his only half-inspired effort, he sent his own account of the occasion to the Washington *Chronicle* for publication as an anonymous letter from New York.

> Imagine yourself inside a huge barn-like edifice of a couple of acres, spanned by immense arches, like the ribs of some leviathan ship, (whose skeleton hull inverted the structure might be said to resemble,) & this building, crowded & crammed with incipient displays of goods and machinery—everything that grows & is made—& a thousand men actually engaged at work, in their shirt-sleeves, putting the said goods & machinery in order—all with a noise, movement, & variety as if a good-sized city was in process of being built.
>
> In the middle of this, to an audience of perhaps two or three thousand people, with a fringe on the outside of perhaps five or six hundred partially-hushed workmen, carpenters, machinists, & the like, with saws, wrenches, or hammers in their hands, Walt Whitman, last Thursday, gave his already celebrated poem before the American Institute. His manner was at first sight coldly quiet, but you soon felt a magnetism & felt stirred. His great figure was clothed in gray, with white vest, no necktie, & his beard was as unshorn as ever. His voice is magnificent, & is to be mentioned with Nature's oceans & the music of forests and hills.
>
> His gestures are few, but significant. Sometimes he stands with his hands in his breast pockets; once or twice he walked a few steps to & fro. He did not mind the distant noises & the litter & machinery, but doubtless rather enjoyed them. He was perfectly self-possessed. His apostrophe to the Stars and Stripes which floated above him, describing them in far different scenes in battle, was most impassioned. Also his "Away with War itself!" & his scornful "Away with novels, plots, & plays of foreign courts!"
>
> A few of his allusions were in a playful tone, but the main impression was markedly serious, animated, & earnest. He was applauded as he advanced to read, besides several times throughout, & at the close. He did not respond in the usual way by bowing. All the directors & officers of the Institute crowded around him & heartily thanked him. He extricated himself, regained his old Panama hat & stick, and, without waiting for the rest of the exercises, made a quiet exit by the steps at the back of the stand.
>
> The real audience of this chant of peace, invention, & labor, however, was to follow. Of the New York & Brooklyn evening and morning dailies, twelve out of seventeen published the poem in full the same evening or the next morning.

So much for the picture Whitman wished the public to have of his performance. His own words make clear how careful he was to create a pose and to maintain it, the trademark of the new poetry. He had no doubt supplied copies of the poem to the press in advance, and I have found that a good many of them did print it, in whole or in part. But this does not mean that they all took it seriously. A humorous contrast to Whitman's description appeared in the *World's* report (September 8) captioned "Poetry and Ploughs." The reporter failed to see the thousands to which Whitman refers. (The *Tribune* estimated that there were 200–300 present.) "The vacancy caused by the absence of Mr. Greeley," said the *World*, "was regarded with painful emotion." The police were so little able to quiet the workmen's hubbub, even for the prayer of invocation, that it was impossible for Whitman's voice to carry more than fifteen feet. "After prayer the poet was introduced. The managers were all provided with printed proofs, which enabled them to follow the author as he recited his verses and put in the applause where it was proper to do so. No one among the meeting house benches could have heard anything the poet said." The report was accompanied by an editorial entitled "A Whitmaniacal Catalogue." The editor saw no "playful tone" in the poem, but satirized its prosaic formlessness, which is, of course, its weakest point.

> Dropping the hand of the amiable Muse with a rude suddenness, born probably of a recollection of his duties as a compiler of a catalogue, Mr. Whitman returns to his work, and gives in rapid succession a list of everything on exhibition at the fair. Even when fairly in the midst of this prosaic task the painful confusion of his intellect is frequently manifest. He arbitrarily groups coffee-mills, mowing-machines, and anti-malarious pills under the singular heading of "rills of civilization," and boldly prophesies that these strangely composite rills will ultimately become pyramids and obelisks, upon which "powerful matrons" will gaze in admiration. It is true he expressly states that these matrons of the future will be
>
> Vaster than all the old;
>
> but why the vastness of a matron should induce her to regard rills of mowing-machines as identical with obelisks does not appear. Even the famous fat lady of Barnum's former museum, who, if not a matron, was at all events the vastest of modern females, would have repelled with indignation the idea that she could not tell a rill from a pyramid.

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Even the Brooklyn *Eagle*, which Whitman had edited a quarter of a century before, though admitting that he had his points, was disposed to treat him rather as a freak, properly exhibited at a fair.

> The most of it [the Institute poem], however, will be pronounced by the average reader hard, commonplace, realistic, prosaic, when it is not simple jargon—word-piling with no obvious purpose. Whether Whitman is to remain on view throughout the exhibition the advertizements do not state. If he is engaged permanently we advise the citizens of Brooklyn to go and see him. He has a special and local, as well as a general and national, reputation.

IV

But it was the *Tribune* that saw in the occasion opportunity for mirth unconfined. Bayard Taylor, who was the next year to defend American publishers, in the so-called Buchanan War, against what he termed the "intellectual convexity" of Whitman's ardent sponsors, sat down and composed parodies of the four poets most in the public eye—Bret Harte, John Hay, Joaquin Miller and Whitman. These the managing editor connected with a prose burlesque, representing the four poets as contending for first honors at the fair, each by celebrating himself. The tone of the Whitman travesty[3] is well represented by the opening lines:

> Who was it sang of the procreant urge, recounted sextillions of subjects?
> Who but myself, the Kosmos, yawping abroad, concerned not at all about either the effect or the answer.

But there were editors to praise Whitman's poem, including those of the Brooklyn *Standard*, the New York *Sun* and the faithful Washington *Star*, which blamed the *Tribune's* attitude on the jealousy of its own "kept poet." Altogether Whitman did create a stir, which may have been as much as he hoped for. Taylor doubtless never appreciated the full greatness of the man, yet one who has studied the record must appreciate the point he made in 1876 in answer to the charge that there was a literary cabal against Whitman among American publishers and editors:

> The charge of a cabal among any portion of the authors of America, to persecute and suppress Walt Whitman, or anybody else, is an absurdity and an impertinence. Other writers have their contributions returned by magazine editors, and do not whine about it. Hawthorne was ignored during his best years, Emerson abused and ridiculed, and their friends never dreamed of imagining a conspiracy against them. No man in this country has ever been so constantly and skillfully advertised by his disciples as Walt Whitman. They have not only been sleeplessly watchful for attack, but they have resented indifference. They deny, for his sake, the right of a critic to be honest, the right of an editor to select, or the right of a publisher to refuse. Not patient for the final and irreversible decision of time, they angrily claim immediate acceptance of a theory of formlessness in literature which would send the world's great authors to the shade. If their master's new venture should fail, they will be chiefly to blame. He has wisely held himself aloof from their aggressive championship; and we heartily commend the silence and apparent indifference of "the good gray poet" to the imitation of his good green friends.

Whitman did often restrain his impetuous friends, less shrewd than he, and he professed not to have started the Buchanan War, though I cannot find that he was displeased with it. In fact, he made himself often enough the same charges against American publishers that Buchanan made when he opened hostilities. And had Taylor been able to see Whitman's practiced hand behind such articles, for instance, as I have quoted here, I doubt if he would have drawn a line between the good gray poet and his good green friends.

If there was jealousy in the heart of Taylor, there is, on the other hand, room to believe that Whitman found in him a natural rival and enemy. When Taylor was asked to write the poem for the Centennial Exposition in Philadelphia in 1876, Whitman was disappointed. He renamed the American Institute piece "Song of the Exposition" and further celebrated the occasion by issuing a Centennial Edition of his poems. Concerning these two occasions when his ambitions crossed those of Taylor, he afterward said to Horace Traubel:

> It rather staggered me at the time to receive the invitation to make this poem: I was everywhere,

[3] Reprinted, with the others, in Taylor's "The Echo Club and Other Literary Diversions" and in Henry S. Saunders' "Walt Whitman Parodies."

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practically everywhere, disavowed—hated, ridiculed, lampooned, parodied; rejected by the notables everywhere. Then this invitation came. Of course my inviters were criticized for inviting, I was criticized for being invited—for accepting—all kinds of impolite things were said, mostly for my benefit: I even got a few anonymous letters from people who wanted to tell me "the plain truth," as one of them said. But the thing went off—went off all right—yes: was its own kind of success.

I've only had a few such occasions to take care of. William [O'Connor] told Eldridge or somebody that I should have had the poem for the Centennial—that Bayard Taylor was unfit—that no one but Walt Whitman could have proved equal to the exigency: but William found few to take his view of the matter. I do not seem to belong to great show events—I am more like nobody than like somebody,—I was more used to being kicked out than asked in: I always went to the big powwows with the crowd, to look on, not with the nabobs, to perform.

Even here Whitman is trying to launch the idea that only prejudice and bad luck prevented him from being a literary lion. His unhappiness lay in his effort to be both journalist and poet, sensationalist and seer. He was an occasional poet, and our greatest; but the only occasion to which he could fitly respond, as in the case of his threnody on Lincoln's death, was some sudden and unpredictable eruption of his own emotions. The calendar had nothing to do with his creative impulses. It is a pity that he felt he had to advertise himself or go under; and that, if he must be his own press-agent, he injudiciously called attention to his worst poetry as well as his most sublime.

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SOMETIMES WE ARE FOOLED

BY ELEANOR ROWLAND WEMBRIDGE

Those of us whose duty it is, working in the courts, to scrutinize humanity from week to week, as others scan merchandise, machinery or balance sheets, sometimes fall into the error of believing that we understand the race. There is an easy temptation, after handling a certain number of taciturn, unstrung, sly, or volcanic temperaments, to classify them into types, put them into pigeon-holes, and prophesy with some assurance what they will do next. This is a dangerous attitude of mind. For despite psychiatry, child guidance clinics, psychometrics, psycho-analysis, and learning curves, sometimes we get fooled. The case whose next move we charted with so much confidence shows a sudden burst of originality, and flops from its nook in the card catalogue to one quite different. Or, more likely, it refuses to be catalogued at all. Now and again, even a moron or a psychopath declines to act like one, but in a gust of primeval sagacity conducts his affairs in a crisis with the sure instinct of a bee.

It is these variants who give spice to our calling. Then Nature thumbs her nose at us, and reminds us that she still holds a few human riddles in reserve. The cases which I cite to prove the point (a point that hardly needs proving) are not important. No great matters hung in the balance of decision. But the memory of them serves to chasten my opinion when more critical emergencies arise. They are reminders that the astronomer may more accurately predict an eclipse a hundred years from now than a psychologist may foresee what this or that human being will do tomorrow.

To begin with the janitor. He was courteous, and industrious, and kept the place in order. As one of his tenants I had exchanged good-morning and good-evening with him for a year. I presumptuously thought that I knew what to expect of him as a worthy member of his calling. One evening, upon coming home earlier than usual, I observed from afar that there were guests in my apartment, one of whom was playing a Hungarian rhapsody. In considerable curiosity as to who my musical visitor might be, and as to how he had gained admittance, I entered—only to find the janitor, his kit of tools, with which he had been mending the radiator, forgotten on the floor, and the hands which I had mistakenly supposed trained only for the furnace and the pipes performing Liszt virtuosities on my piano!

He jumped to his feet with an apology. "Don't stop! Let me listen," I urged in vain. "You must excuse me, for I have work to do," he responded politely. "But I never *could* resist a Steinway."

And, snatching up his wrenches he disappeared, leaving me staring.

Some months later we moved, and in the course of readjusting the postal service, the following note arrived from our former custodian:

> Pray forgive my perhaps unwarranted assurance in detaining your admirable psychological journal for what may seem an extended period. But it was late when it arrived, inadvertently delivered at the old address. Its wrapper, much attenuated, disclosed its character, and I made bold to investigate the contents. I am a subscriber now. Begging you to accept my apologies and thanks, I remain, etc.

Another shock! Having adjusted myself to a view of him as an artist in disguise, I

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now had to admit that for a year I had been rubbing elbows with a colleague and never knew it. Perhaps he is a member of the Philadelphia Philosophical Society, of the Brookline Association for the Apprehension of Horse Thieves, of the Soviet diplomatic corps, of the Black Hand. I no longer presume to say. I have learned my lesson. Never again shall I be misled into believing that I can, offhand, understand a janitor.

Nor an elevator boy. There were two elevators and two boys, both of the sleek, oiled-hair variety that I have come, from court experience, to look upon darkly. They usually play the saxophone or traps at night. And they can dance. Because of the fascination which they exert over sixteen-year-old sentimentalists, my mouth puckered slightly just to see them.

I had gone up and down many times with one or the other of these shining sheiks, and I did not like their looks. They seemed too anxious to make their lifts stop at the same landing, and to confer in mysterious whispers between their cages. "Up to no good," I reflected. "Plans for a party after the show, and more work for me when their girl partners are rounded up." But one day I stood near enough to overhear their whispers.

"How much did yours gain last week?" hissed one of them through the grating.

"Only two. How much did yours?"

"Six," proudly, as an angry buzzer called him back. "Condensed is no good. Try modified milk," he added, as the elevators slid apart.

I blinked at my slender dude. Modified milk was best. I too had found it so. Neither of us, apparently, during the preceding evening, had been at a show; both had been measuring out skim milk and barley water! Again I had been fooled. If the truth were known, he probably had been equally fooled in me. We were more akin than either of us dreamed. Seducing juveniles, indeed. He was *raising* them!

So much for failure to see virtue in disguise. But what of wolves in sheep's clothing? One Spring I was traveling through Greece with a friend of conventional habits. There, by chance, we fell in with a painter of quiet and unexceptionable manners. He seemed to be alone with time on his hands, and he kindly offered to devote his leisure to showing us sights which he was admirably fitted to explain. The Acropolis, the Museum, Lykabettos, Eleusis, and the classic shades of the Academy are illumined in my memory by the learned and charmingly expressed comments of the kindly Yalthor in his quaint accent, helped out by a swift and accurate pencil. He had but one trying habit, and that was to fade away in an Athenian crowd. To our American friends, he was all courtesy. But let a local archæologue approach, and Yalthor vanished from our elbows, acting as if he tired of our company. But this explanation of his erratic disappearances our vanity naturally refused to accept. We laid it to his shyness, and tried to overlook one failing in an admirable man who had so few.

One day he failed entirely to keep his appointments, but disappeared as suddenly as we had met, leaving no trace behind. Months later, we all but bumped into him near the Doges' Palace in Venice, led in tow by an efficient woman, who, after being introduced as his wife of two days, dragged him swiftly away. It was as well that she did, for we could not speak her tongue nor she ours. They left so quickly that there was no time for explanations. In the look of dumb woe which Yalthor cast at us over his shoulder, he evidently tried to express something to us, his former playmates—but what? We could not fathom. Another unfinished story of which travel furnishes so large a number. A year later, at a lantern lecture upon classical antiquities, what should be flashed upon the screen but one of Yalthor's paintings! I hastened to the speaker to discover, if possible, some explanation of his secret.

"Yalthor was *such* a friend of ours," I gushed.

"A friend of yours? You must be mis-

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taken. The worst rascal in the Levant!"

Yalthor—our Yalthor a rascal? It appeared incontestably true. I, with a correct friend, unusually sensitive to the whiffs of scandal, had been basking happily under the chaperonage of an artist indeed, but one so boisterously misbehaved that he had been ordered out of a none too scrupulous town, and, in one last effort of exasperated relatives, married off to make him respectable. His tendency to fade away in social groups was plainly his chivalrous attempt not to compromise us, his innocent admirers, in a public that knew him all too well. And I, whose professional nose supposedly should smell out crime if there is any, had not only detected nothing, but had been contentedly drinking tea and watching a Greek moonrise with the worst rake between Marathon and Salamis. If one is to be fooled, it is something to be *well* fooled. And so delightfully entertained in the process. Alas, poor Yalthor! When he could assume an absent virtue so charmingly, why could he not wear it for a garment? Something tells me that he will not be kept in hand by the wife that his guardians picked out. But there again—I may be wrong.

II

So much for a few misinterpretations of characters which had been under considerable observation, and where no opinion was required. How much more chance for error in court judgments, decisions made in a moment, quick guesses as to which witness is telling the most lies, which eyes glare agony and which hysterics, which mouths mean what they say, and which are laughing up their sleeve! Despite the best clinical aid which can be mustered, it does not pay to be too certain. Perhaps we are braced for trouble if there has been plenty of warning. "Two officers on this case," whispers the bailiff. "Three attorneys," hisses the probation officer. "Call the interpreter," advises the supervisor. "Fourth appearance in court," drones the record. "Constitutional psychopathic inferior," chants the report. "No institutional vacancy," snarls the telephone. "Jail under quarantine," reminds the clerk. "Assault with concealed weapons," croaks the affidavit. Then, when we are ready for anything, nothing happens. Everyone agrees with smiles regardless of the dialect, we shake hands, and it is all over, not only without bloodshed, but without much of anything, in less than ten minutes.

On the other hand, a mere triviality of an indictment drags on and on, becoming increasingly tangled until it develops into a *cause célèbre* before our eyes. Such was the case of Mamie. A mere truant. She stayed at home from school and that was all. Nothing to do but send her back. But it was not to be so simple. She simply would not go. Because, it appeared, she had an ankle. In some period of her past she had broken it, it had healed, and everyone supposed that the incident was closed. Far from it. When she faced school, the old injury rapidly increased in virulence, until the court-room began to accumulate neighbors, doctors' certificates, and protests from attendance officers, like a rolling snowball. Every week we thought that we were done with Mamie, and had at last got the school doors closed upon her, only to see her reappear more and more infirm, supported at last at each elbow by groaning relatives and with an attorney, pleading with tears in his voice that amputation seemed inevitable.

Her health was mystifying. For credible witnesses affirmed that Mamie had been seen at a local dance-hall, performing (curiously enough) a new dance called the broken ankle, at which she was expert. But we were assured that this could not be, for her wound had opened, and the whole leg might have to go. Two reputable surgeons signed statements that she was able to attend her classes. But what was their testimony in the face of the obvious fact that she was crippled? Apparently we must submit her to a third specialist to

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clear ourselves of the charges of deliberate torture which were being hurled at us. But the third surgeon agreed with the other two, and in a burst of grim exasperation Mamie was told to go to school or get locked up.

As soon as I saw her alone she leaned over and whispered, "I knew I'd get my way if I held out long enough."

"Your way?" I gasped with my jaw dropping. "Did you want to go to school all the time?"

"Sure I did. Why not?"

I stared at her dumbly. "Of course all that about my leg was blah," she explained kindly, noticing my expression of more than ordinary blankness. "Naturally my mother wants me home to do the housework. But school is better than that. Why not?"

And she scampered off gaily on her fractured foot, having placated her mother by her spectacular invalidism, consumed the time of every school, court and clinical official, played horse with friend and foe alike, including the sobbing attorney, and had a glorious time. So much for complete understanding by the experts of an ordinary little monkey of a Mamie.

Nor does it pay, I find, to be too sure that one analyzes correctly all romantic episodes. It is a temptation to think that one does, after many furtive courtings have taken their usual course. But there are gay little variations even here to break the sordid monotony of misadventure. The girl in the case had somehow cajoled Alfy into giving her a coat in which she had run away to marry Matt. She was turned over to us because her extreme youth suggested even to a somewhat nearsighted official that she was too young to marry anybody, and I was trying to unravel the knot of her obligations to both boys. To Alfy she owed nothing, she insisted. He was glad to give her a coat.

"To marry Matt?" I reminded her. "I didn't know Matt at the time I got the coat," she admitted, smoothing out her skirt.

"And how long have you known him now?"

"A coupla days," she giggled, peering up shyly through her mop of bangs.

"Marrying Matt in Alfy's coat after knowing him two days?" I summarized.

"Yeah. That's about it."

"Are you sure that Matt wants to marry you?"

"Sure? Of course I'm sure. He got the license, didn't he? He's crazy to marry me. You can ask him. He's sitting out there."

So Matt, the intrepid lover, the fast worker, the Lochinvar who would not be gainsaid, was summoned. He sidled in with considerable trepidation, and seated himself rather gingerly next to his bravely coated bride. He did not look at her nor she at him, the conventional procedure between our court-room Romeos and Juliets. But there was more than the usual disinclination in Matt to get near his girl. In fact, if I could read anything in his face, he was afraid of her. If he could have had his way, he would have escaped long before his two days were up, but he evidently did not dare.

"Do you want to marry her?" I asked.

At this simple and obvious question, his reticence broke, and he bared his heart.

"No, I don't want to marry her, and I never did," he began peevishly.

"What about the license then?"

"Well, I was with another guy, and he wanted to get a license, and he said he didn't like to get one all alone, and didn't I want one? And I said, no I didn't want one, and I didn't have no girl and he said there was a girl here who knew his girl, and while he was getting a license for his girl, why didn't I get one for mine too, and I said she wasn't my girl but I supposed I could, and he said, 'What's the difference?' And I guess I was kind of tanked up or I wouldn't 'uv. Anyhow I didn't want one, and I don't want one, and I don't see why I have to have one if I don't marry her, and why should I? I don't even know her, and I never done anything to her and she ain't nothing to me."

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He paused for breath.

"It doesn't look like a wedding to me. Does it to you?" I interrupted, turning to the girl.

"You're right; it don't," she responded briefly with a slight grimace, in which no malice was expressed, but merely the mild exasperation of a bridge player who has drawn a poor hand.

"Is there any reason why Matt shouldn't go?" I persisted. "He acts as if he wanted to."

"He can go for all me," she shrugged without even a glance at him, and Matt shot from the door like a mouse from a trap.

When he recovers his breath, which he won't for some time, he can thank his county's court for his escape. Clever Alfy bought his freedom cheaply with a coat. No doubt he is already panting his relief in a box-car headed for the open spaces. And the girl was only fifteen. In a few years, I fear, her victims will not escape so easily.

III

Often they appear worse than they are—as, for instance, Mike, who had drifted from a revolution in Central America and was on his way to an assassination plot in London. The plan finally confided was that he intended to use the valuable hints obtained in getting Honduras and Salvador by the ears to fomenting trouble in the colonies, that should eventually demolish the British Crown. The plan seemed as ambitious as it was deadly. But there was no doubt that Mike was a clever fellow and having nothing on earth to lose, and one more thrill to gain, it was just possible that he might do some mischief. Since the Serbian murder in 1914, it hardly seemed safe to be too sure that any Mike with money behind him and dynamite in his pocket could not start some kind of a war if he put his mind to it. And Mike's mind was certainly on nothing else. He only told me of his plans because, as he assured me, nothing I could do would stop him, and it amused him to contemplate so doughty a champion of the law, so helpless.

"Tell anyone you like that I am going to do some shooting and smash the Empire. Tell the cops. Tell the President. Tell the King. They won't believe you, and if you keep talking they'll lock you up for a nut!" he jeered.

I had nothing to say to this, for I knew all too well that they would—that, under similar circumstances, I would myself. He was on my conscience for a while. I dreamed of Europe weltering in blood that I had not prevented being shed. But I might have spared my nerves. I lately received a note from India, whither Mike had gone to rebel—and remained to pray. He tells me that in a sackcloth robe he is studying Buddhism and reclaiming drug addicts. I wouldn't have expected it of him, but I daresay he is doing just that. Why not that as well as something else? Apparently the only behavior that it is safe to expect of Mike is what you would not expect.

Another startling reversal of form was in the case of Mrs. Bettlefech. This lady was (and, so far as I know, still is) in the dubious calling of renting rooms to obscure people with no references and no permanent address. Random young men and scatter-brained young women frequent her dwelling, and after a day or two they disappear. No one expected much idealism from Mrs. Bettlefech; she seemed to be perpetually watching for trouble from the corner of a wary eye. In short, she was in a most questionable business when I knew her, and nothing but due process of law had made her a cautious and unwilling witness in the court-room. She was to identify a runaway girl who had passed through her portals, and she sat grim and silent, watchfully waiting for her chance to flee. Until the subject turned on health, and the report showed that the girl was suffering from a peculiarly dangerous infection for which we were trying to administer treatment. Being a flighty young

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person, she was not interested in our efforts to improve her condition. Instead, she dodged dispensaries and doctors, and with the dreadful levity of her class, insisted that if she wanted to die young, it was her own business. During this dispute Mrs. Bettlefech began to rustle vaguely in her corner. From a wooden image of discretion striving only to be unobserved, she was gradually turning to flesh, until the human nature in her could bear no more.

Without warning, she rose, walked to the desk, and took the floor. Ignoring all of us, she leveled her eyes and her finger on the giddy girl, and launched into the most powerful discourse on the nature of her disease and its certain outcome that it has ever been my fate to listen to. She knew whereof she spoke. "Die young?" she snapped fiercely. "You won't die young. You'll die by inches. Your face is pretty now. Listen girlie, how it's going to look if you don't do like they tell you to."

And she painted an appallingly vivid portrait. She spared us nothing. A haunted nerve in the woman had been roughly hit, and it was jangling its response, no matter what light it threw upon her past. The girl cowered staring in her seat, her doll face flushed with fearful amazement. Mrs. Bettlefech well knew that her weakness was her vanity, and she hammered on it mercilessly, until her writhing victim agreed to everything. None of us would have ventured to drive the lesson home in such a cruel fashion, but Mrs. Bettlefech, for one inspired moment, knew what to say, and said it with the invective of a Cicero against Catiline. The room was full. It listened. When our extraordinary Portia had sat down, there was nothing left for any of us to do but to sign our names in the proper places, thank her for her unexpected assistance, and be grateful that it was over.

I wonder what she would have thought if anyone had told her when she started to court that morning that she was going to burst into public eloquence. She would no doubt have been more incredulous than we. If it was her first and last masterpiece of fearful oratory, I only wish that every young idiot that I know had heard it. Her one good deed shines bright in the naughty world wherein she lurks.

In contrast to Mrs. Bettlefech is an unknown devotee next to whom I sat while the band in the plaza played "Nearer, My God, To Thee." The sun was setting, the audience was moved, and the seat next to the stranger being empty, I tried to slip into it with as little disturbance as possible. The lady beside me was lost in a pious revery. Her hand was spread over her eyes in a very ecstasy of feeling—so much so that I could at first hardly believe my sensations of being slowly but unmistakably pushed off my chair. Something, and it could be only she, was ramming me with powerful, insistent impetus into the aisle.

I gazed at her startled. No one so lost in piety above could possibly be so determinedly pushing me below. Yet it was clear that (to modify the metaphor) if I did not sit my ground, I would soon be in confusion on the gravel. Having just come in, it seemed to me too restless to leave again. Yet unless I did so, I was apparently to go sprawling before the cornet had sounded the final measure.

I decided to stick it out. If her looks belied her actions, so could mine. So, with an expression of similar facial calm, I began to push the other way. Like buffalo with locked horns, the silent contest proceeded. Her motive, I daresay, was to save the end seat for a friend, and at the same time not miss her own vesper prayers. Mine was the less generous one of keeping a seat once I was in it, without a public crash—a catastrophe upon which my devout neighbor seemed bent. The wordless battle went on, she pushing and praying, I merely pushing. As the final chord was reached, exhausted by her relentless muscles, and grasping the seat ahead to keep from catapulting sideways, I rose obliquely with what dignity I could muster, and retreated in utter defeat, never having once

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looked my pious adversary in the face. I have been in many contests of wills since that afternoon, but never has my opponent fortified herself with an attitude of prayer, nor have I wrestled to the soft strains of "Nearer, My God, To Thee." "Awake, My Soul; Stretch Every Nerve," was rather the inspiration that I needed!

IV

So much for conscience in the disreputable, and fierce elbows from the devout. As St. Paul would express it, time would fail me to tell of many other surprises—for example, of the determination of Ann and Lizzie to tell nothing of their past, which turned out to be from no fear of revealing anything incriminating, but because questioning meant a brain test, and a brain test meant that we would fly at their heads with a surgical saw. Ann confessed that she had always disliked operations, and hated to have her skull cut open. Lizzie was fearless as to injury to her brain, but was determined to save her permanent.

Then there was Sara, who sobbed as we supposed for her sweetheart, but who finally howled that she did not miss him so much as an Airedale pup. There was, again, the eloping couple equipped for the adventure of housekeeping with nothing but a large kewpie doll. There was the intent gentleman whose gaze was not fixed upon my discourse, but upon my aura. There was the desperado who defended himself on a statistical basis, calculating that so much mischief must be done, and that it fell to him to do his quota. There was the philanderer who turned out to be an authority on international law; the Chinaman who refused to be orientally passive, but reduced us to helpless laughter with his wit and mimicry; the taxi-driver who in a fit of conscience or of humor drove his youthful passengers past the roadhouse where they wanted to go, and shoved them into the Y. W. C. A., where they emphatically did not; and the mother who after hysterical outcries because her daughter was to be detained two days, calmed down enough to whisper when the daughter got out of earshot, "Better keep her two weeks—but don't tell her I said so!"

All these and many more have declined to fall quietly into the classifications where they belonged. They have insisted upon acting differently from what we expected of them, or they of themselves. Let the psychologist prophesy as he must and will, the fact remains that the probable future of a large majority of human beings is still veiled in the obscurity wherein Nature hides her most fascinating secrets.

It is no doubt indiscreet for one in my calling to admit thus the number of occasions on which clients have not been read at a glance, analyzed by a report, or correctly understood by an interview. But if it be rashness to admit that the sheep and goats are occasionally mixed, it is one step in the search for truth to at least admit it. Far be it from me, the more I see of it, to be too cocksure of anything the human race may do.

The father of one of our pert young minxes leaned back and stared moodily at his capricious offspring.

"Sometimes I can't figger that girl out," he mused aloud.

I would go him one better. Sometimes I can't figger out any of them.

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CLINICAL NOTES

BY GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

Advertising.—The profession of advertising, which has made such enormous strides in the last decade in the direction of intelligence, good-looking copy and public persuasion, impresses me, for all its noteworthy advancement, as being in certain quarters still somewhat less foxy than it imagines itself. I allude to the indulgence of a number of its professors in the theory of "catching the eye" at all costs and to the trapping of that eye often at the expense of making the advertised article itself elude it.

A devoted reader of advertisements, partly out of curiosity, partly out of the common human impulse to discover something better than that which one is currently given to using, and even more so because present-day advertising is often much more interesting than the literary reading matter in the same journal, I am sometimes struck by the lengths to which the advertising gentlemen go to catch this eye of mine and by the subsequent reflection that this eye of mine is all that they have caught. I have before me, as I write, a half dozen examples culled from various gazettes. I cut them out for the simple reason that, after seeing them in many places many times, it suggested itself to me that, after my eye had been caught, I had actually come away with no idea as to what the catching of my eye was all about, with no inquisitiveness to learn why my eye had been caught, and without the slightest eagerness to learn what the product advertised was.

One of these advertisements is one-third occupied by a lithograph showing two very pretty girls in one-piece bathing suits waving at a small can of corn. The two sweet ones' shapes have attracted me optically a number of times, but what they have to do with the corn that paid for the advertising or what the corn's name is, I did not trouble to learn until it occurred to me to write this article. Another shows a very toothsome miss revealing her shapely limbs far above the knees. I have just discovered that, in the small type occupying one-fourth of the copy, she is supposed to advertise a certain brand of cathartic. Another, taking up a full page, has a beautiful view of Lake Como occupying more than half of the page; I have often admired it and feasted my eyes upon it; and I have just found out that what is advertised below is a brand of face-powder. Still another, a finely executed piece of copy, has a lithograph showing an episode in one of the fairy tales; the original painting, nicely reproduced, has often caught my eye; but I have only now taken the trouble to read what is below it and to learn that what is advertised is a perfume. And so with the others. That they capture the passing attention is certain. But that, having captured it by devious and often irrelevant means, they persuade it to read the advertisement itself is, if my case is at all typical, doubtful.

In other days, the advertising professors aimed also, of course, at catching the eye but, if memory serves, less with such extrinsic subjects than with the name of the advertised product itself. That the technique was successful is established by the fact that almost the only advertisements of thirty years ago that we adults still remember today were those that, without such fol-de-rol, hit the nail directly upon the head, either with the simple name of the article, with a simple picture of the package of goods or with a closely allied

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catch-phrase. The youngster of thirty years ago now grown to manhood recalls vividly, even in this crowded day of much more greatly advanced and developed advertising strategy, Carter's Little Liver Pills, the De Long Hook and Eye ("See that hump"), Chas. H. Fletcher's Castoria ("Children cry for it"), Sapolio, the Gold Dust Twins, Pond's Extract, Dr. Munyon, Electro-Silicon, Mennen's Talcum Powder, Nestle's Food, Dr. Lyons' Tooth Powder, Dr. Piso's Cough Syrup, Radway's Ready Relief, Beeman's Pepsin Gum, the Columbia bicycle, Kleinert's Dress Shields, the Winton automobile, the Seven Sutherland Sisters' Hair Restorer, the Regal shoe, Hood's Sarsaparilla, St. Jacob's Oil, Hires' Root Beer, Wilson—That's All, Quaker Oats, the R. & G. corset, Heublein's Cocktails, Sen-Sen, Madame Yale's beauty preparations, Anheuser-Busch—to say nothing of Pabst's Blue Ribbon, the Cremo cigar, the Six Little Tailors, Hyomei, Sweet Caporal cigarettes, Underwood's Deviled Ham, Smith Brothers' cough drops, Burpee's seeds, Sozodont, Pearline, Adams's Tutti-Frutti gum, Mail Pouch, Navy Plug and Danderine. Almost every one of these, one reflects, was advertised with a literal directness of copy. They were presented directly to the public, their names set forth simply and conspicuously or with a simple picture of the package or article plainly in view at the very head of the copy. I do not, of course, forget one of the best remembered of them all—Pears' Soap—with the elaborate lithograph of the child who wouldn't be happy until he got it, but even in this case what it was he wouldn't be happy until he got was emphatically announced to the eye. Some of the other products mentioned were also pictorially advertised, but the pictures were those of Beeman, the Seven Sutherland Sisters, St. Jacob and Regal shoes—or of a Sozodont user's teeth, the Smith Brothers' distinguished whiskers or a Wilson whiskey bottle; they were never those of the Bay of Naples by moonlight, Mack Sennett bathing cuties, or the flags of all nations.

The Colored Brother.—That, with his recent emergence into the limelight, our colored brother has become a public correspondent very nearly as active and intense as the white Christian Scientist, is impressed upon those of us who hazard to follow and comment on his activities. The Christian Scientists, as is well known, long since formed themselves into a kind of letter-writing Ku Klux, ever ready with pen and ink to lash, flay and lynch anyone who dared insinuate that their doctrines might be suspect or that they themselves, like all human beings, might sometimes conceivably be talking through their hats. Much of the touchiness displayed by the Science girls and boys has lately become evident also in the case of the dark brother; his letters of protest against this and that increase daily; and more and more he displays an indiscriminate and often idiotic resentment of criticisms of himself.

Not long ago, I wrote in this place of the hollowness of much of the lugubrious hoopla that has been disgorged recently on the sad estate of the Negro, pointing out from statistics gathered by reputable representatives of the colored race itself that certain of the indignations of the Negro alarmists were without foundation and that the condition of the race generally in the United States showed unmistakable, encouraging and constant signs of improvement. Immediately it was necessary to instal a relief office-boy to handle the mail. Carefully perusing the denunciatory letters, I found all but one to be identical in sense and tone with the kind of thing the Christian Scientists write in. There was no intelligence of argument, no direct or relevant comment on what had been printed, but merely—as with the Science brethren—either hot words or an obvious greasy and futile effort to gain sympathy with childish cozening.

The exception was a colored gentleman named Rienzi B. Lemus, president of the Grand Council, Brotherhood of Dining Car Employees, with headquarters in the Urban League Building, New York. "Dear

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Sir," his brief communication read; "The enclosure is clipping of my column from the Boston *Chronicle* with comment on your recent conclusions in respect to the Afric's yelping unduly about his decreasing ills." The clipping read as follows:

> Mr. Nathan, who once wrote that as white as he himself is, Walter White, of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, *is three shades whiter*, takes to task the Afric for weeping too much about his U. S. ills. With typically Nathanesque marshalling of facts (aside from the somewhat superfluous statistical review to show that lynching has not been confined to the Afric) he demonstrates that the race problem blues are sung disproportionately to the ever-decreasing ills of the brother, and calls on symphathetic white folk to save their tears. George Jean is on solid ground. Nevertheless, it seems that he might learn to differentiate between the constructive brethren of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, Urban League, and the Afric hustlerati which live on the race problem—so much so that they would die in three days of the final busting of the color line.

Whatever the literary talents of Mr. Lemus, he impresses me as having very good sense. What he points out hits the tack on the top: this Negro wailing over Negro ills is, with small and honorable exception, largely a professional business on the part of what he aptly calls the Negro hustlerati, that is, Negroes who are capitalizing it to personal and financial end and who are really not half so much interested in the welfare of their people as they are in Old John Henry and the golden lining of his pockets.

On another occasion and in another place, I described our colored friends, during the course of a review of a negligible Negro musical revue, with the terms *Sambo*, *Chocolate* and *Licorice*. Another relief office-boy had to be called in to take care of the protests. The terms, heatedly proclaimed the correspondents, were derogatory, offensive and insulting. *Sambo*, according to the dictionary, is from the Spanish—the word is the same—and means "a person of mixed Indian and Negro blood." *Chocolate*, which seemed equally offensive, figured in the title of the revue, "Hot Chocolates," given to the show by the Negroes who wrote it, produced it, staged it and acted it. As for *Licorice*, which seemed to arouse the greatest ire, it was the name of a character played by a Negro, written by a Negro and named by a Negro.

Creative Writing.—Of all the definitions mouthed by the critical fraternity, that which has to do with creation in literary fields is the most bogus. It is the persistent theory of the fraternity that the phrase *creative writing* must be reserved for novelists, poets and writers of a kind, however bad, and that it cannot truthfully be visited upon any others, however good. Criticism, according to the definition, does not come under the head of creation and, as a consequence, such things as Dryden's "Essay of Dramatic Poesy" are not creative writing whereas such things as Zane Grey's novels presumably are. Nor does journalism in any form meet with the favor of the definition, with the result that the late Richard Harding Davis's description of the entrance of the German forces into Belgium is consigned to limbo, whereas the same writer's worst short fiction gains the good graces of the critical definition. The whole business, like so much of critical theory, is the purest wham. Frank Harris's journalism has often been creative writing of a high order. So has Shaw's and Wells'. What, too, of Addison's, Steele's, Swift's and Lamb's? And as for critical creative writing, what of Philip Sidney's, Corneille's, Sam Johnson's, Lessing's, Voltaire's, Schiller's, Victor Hugo's and Zola's?

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THE THEATRE

BY GEORGE JEAN NATHAN

Storehouse Notwithstanding

HAVING deplored in these pages last month the poverty of American high comedy, I had no sooner O.K.'d the final proofs of the affecting lamentation than Vincent Lawrence came along with an exceptionally good piece of rebuttal. Its name was "Among the Married" and it proved again what I have in the past observed: that this Lawrence is the sharpest and most gifted of our comic dramatists and the only one of the lot whose work, whatever its deficiencies, uniformly reveals a surgical mind in the operation upon its materials. That Lawrence writes truer and more biting dialogue than any other playwright in our theatre is already pretty widely granted. But that he also has the most understanding and unsparing conception of the single subject that interests him—the ramifications of the amorous passion—still remains to be impressed upon those who believe that that analytical art must inevitably speak with a French accent.

My respect for Lawrence is based not only upon his talent for perception, his acute comprehension and his dialogic skill, but—even more—upon his absolute and forthright independence in declining to dramatize his findings in sympathy with the box-office. It would at times be very easy for him to compromise with popular taste in such a way that even his critics would be deceived, as many a finer dramatist has done, but he doesn't seem to be able to discover it in him to do so. With O'Neill, he is the only completely honest playwright that we have. His failure, commercially speaking, is the price of his honesty, for it so happens that the themes he selects, unlike certain of those of O'Neill's, are essentially distasteful to that large majority of the public that, while it may believe in truth, yet prefers to worship it, like God, at a considerable distance.

What keeps Lawrence from being a comic dramatist of real stature is, first, his apparent inability to make his characters refrain from turning actors in the last moments of his plays and, secondly, his occasional invalidation of his otherwise excellent theses with momentary lapses into dubious philosophies. In the former regard, his characters now and then suggest first-rate photographs marred by the circumstance that, just before the camera exposure has been snapped shut, a bug has crossed the lens. In the latter, we find an illuminating example in "Among the Married." Lawrence, following the impulse of many of our writers of polite comedy, as noted here last month, cannot resist the injection into his work of a dash of generalized immoralizing or of what may be called amorous etiology. Just as one is becoming completely persuaded by the successive after-images of his characters' speech and acts, he peremptorily causes one of those characters to stand apart, metamorphose himself Fregoli-like into Vincent Lawrence, and denaturalize the convincing impression of the whole by gravely reciting some titbit that Lawrence has ingested from some sex pundit or other. The titbit in point not only doesn't fit itself to Lawrence's theme but, even if it did, would debilitate it quite as much as the sudden injection of a "Now, listen!" would weaken the effect of, say, the Gettysburg Address.

"Among the Married" treats, with generally rare observation and a faithful ear, of the emotional and physical relations of the more leisurely yoked. With a beautiful craft that mimics naturalness so closely

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that the dividing line is almost imperceptible, the author penetrates the exteriors of his characters and from under their layers of silk and broadcloth slowly fetches forth the contented unhappiness, the challengeful peace, the deceitful honesty and all the other paradoxical qualities that squirm with a stinging recognizability in their typical innards. The dialogue with which he negotiates this digging for mica is as easy and natural as if it had been caught by a discriminating and humorous dictaphone; only once during the course of the play, when he confounds mere speed with nervous impatience, does the talk become theatrical. As for his characters, they are for the major portion of the evening constantly themselves; their every detail of comportment is that naturally expected of them; they are not, as is so often the case, characters whose actions, whatever their thought and speech, suggest that they are blood relatives of some stage director. Only in their last moments, as remarked, do they slide slightly from complete recognition.

So much for virtues.

The comedy tells a tale fundamentally familiar to the theatre since the day of "Divorçons." Hundreds of distillations have anticked behind the footlights in this or that guise and here is simply still another edition of the sauce-for-the-goose-sauce-for-the-gander theme. Lawrence has removed most of the grease-paint from the theme as it is habitually treated and gives it the feel and quiver of life. It is when he insinuates himself into the play and gives his little lecture that he grieves the judicious. It is not enough for him to let his characters act naturally; he must explain the causes of their natural actions and in the explaining turn a good playwright into a bad theorist. The leaf that Lawrence has on this occasion taken from some one's else treatise on anatomical arson has to do with man's biological necessity for several women as opposed to woman's need for only one. Failing to ponder the borrowed doctrine as closely as he scrutinizes the psychical idiosyncrasies of his own characters, he rashly visits it upon those characters, to the ruin of the dramatic integrity of at least one of them, his central woman figure. Nor, which is worse, does he filter the theory through his own clear head and detect it to be the buncombe it is.

The day that a woman as scientifically gifted as Havelock Ellis, say, records her conviction that, while man needs a harem, woman is content with a solitary Sultan, on that day will I put some faith in the dogma hitherto advanced by males alone. In the doctrine as currently promulgated we have man's most sentimental contribution to amorous philosophy: "Ave Maria" in terms of "Don Giovanni." But this is somewhat beside the point. The point is that, buncombe or not buncombe, the tenet is inapplicable, as already noted, to the actions of Lawrence's chief characters. These, the husband and the wife, do not seek physical satisfaction elsewhere, for all their overly assertive say-so, so much as they seek what all such seekers seek, to wit, a kind of sexual Stokowski-ism or, to put it into simpler terms, that gratification that is nine-tenths romantic to one-tenth physical. It is the adultery that men commit with their ears when they hear a Strauss waltz and that women commit with their eyes when they look at the director of the orchestra. It is this adultery resolved into actuality, often with physical indifference, that is responsible for the collapse of many such marriages as Lawrence pictures. Man, being more romantically and sentimentally minded than woman, is generally the first offender, however much it pains him. It isn't that he is vain and wishes to be a dog with the ladies, as is generally maintained; it is simply that he sees in women the mirage of beauty that women, very much more sagacious, seldom permit themselves to see in men. Women's realistic conception of men is responsible for their relatively greater continence. They generally take out their satisfaction in holding to the il-

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lusion of an unattainable male or, if occasionally they take it otherwise, simply for the purpose of forgetting that gnawing illusion for a brief space of time. Men more often, against the pull of their physical impulses, promiscuously commit *crim. con.* with hypothetical female rainbows and then foolishly leave their umbrellas behind them.

That, anyway—if Lawrence will condone my presumption—is his play, even if he did not appreciate the fact and write it into it. The borrowed bogus philosophy that he has pitched into the play that he has actually written has no place in it; his own central woman character plainly doesn't believe in it for a moment. Everything she does and the way she does it belie Lawrence's visitation of the filched credo upon her. Revenge against her philandering husband is at the bottom of her sexual digression, but not any article in what is called the new morality—most certainly not the article of sexual equality. It is thus that Lawrence's characters of wife and husband suddenly cease being characters and turn play-actors at the very moment of their potentially highest conviction. Both were looking simply for a new thrill, and sex was the smallest part of that thrill. Lawrence himself inadvertently shows this clearly in the reluctance of the husband—after his to him glamorous adventure with the Spanish dancer—to enter into physical relationship with the attractive wife of his neighbor. The fellow is looking not for sexual gratification but for yellow silk, illusion and charm. He is forced into the sex business itself unwillingly.

Lawrence seldom commits such an unhappy psychological error as he has committed in this latest piece of his. The body of his work is more often original and, in its originality, sound. But, whatever his slips and whatever the possible dubiety of certain of his appropriations from amatory lore, he remains the most observant writer of high comedy that we have on this side of the Atlantic.

II

The Theatre Guild's Tumble

The production of Leonhard Frank's dramatization of his smooth novel, "Karl and Anna," by the Theatre Guild, is a cause for renewed speculation on that organization's recent inexcusably poor judgment in manuscript selection. That its judgment is really as bad as it looks, I doubt; its past record has been too satisfactory to lend convincing color to the present assumption of collapsed perception. The only alternative is to believe that the Guild has begun, for all its pretenses to higher things, to think in terms of the box-office and, in the thinking, as so often happens, to make headway toward the eventual losing of its shirt.

The Guild, if I am wrong, will please forgive me, but I challenge it to put its hand to its heart and say that it honestly believed that such plays as "Man's Estate," "The Camel Through the Needle's Eye" and this "Karl and Anna" were worthy of the notice of an organization of its kind. That the plays were produced simply with an eye to commercial success is the only possible explanation. There was not a trace of quality in any of them; the first was a cheap sex startler, already abandoned on the road by Jed Harris as too trivial for his trademark; the second was a ninth-rate sex paraphrase of the Cinderella hokum written by a negligible Czech; and the third was revealed as merely an Al Woods bedroom version of Pirandello's "Right You Are If You Think You Are." While the Guild has been corrupting its reputation with such stuff it has remained for presumably less "artistic" and more "commercial" producers to put on such plays, some of them rejected by the failure-fearing and mazuma-mad Guild, as "The Commodore Marries," "Harlem," "Among the Married," "Gods of the Lightning," "Revolt," "The Kingdom of God," "Conflict" and "Journey's End"—to say nothing of "Street Scene" and, to be nasty

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about it, various plays in the Civic Repertory Theatre's programme.

That the Guild's manuscript judgment was poor, but honestly so, in the case of such of its presentations as the miserable British version of "Faust," O'Neill's weak "Dynamo" and the amateurishly confected "Wings Over Europe," one is free not only to admit but somehow to understand and to sympathize with. It is human to make mistakes and these mistakes might conceivably have been made by any sincere person or organization. But, having got the smell of money with the lighter forms of popular entertainment—"Caprice" is an example—the Guild has apparently begun to put its tongue in its cheek with many a manuscript it selects, with the result that it gradually takes on the look of suffering from a bad toothache. And the look, one fears, is rapidly on the way to becoming a fact.

If the Guild answers to this that it is nevertheless, despite appearances, doing the best it can with the manuscripts it finds available, all I can say in reply is that it is not telling the truth. It is *not* doing the best it can, and it knows it. Just as it took it eight or nine years to give O'Neill a hearing, so today it sidesteps worthy dramatists and worthier plays than it is showing in its pursuit of potential popular successes. It now has the road to think of after New York and it wants smash hits peacockily to show Erlanger, the Shuberts and other such Broadway managers just how much more its boys and girls know about the show business than the former know. It is afraid to take chances; it is twice as afraid as William Harris, Jr., who has seldom allowed the thought of financial reward to corrupt his judgment of a manuscript and who has often put on plays, and good ones, that were doomed to failure; it is ten times more cowardly than Arthur Hopkins who will gladly take a chance on any play that appeals strongly to him, whatever its promise of success or failure; it bets on what it believes to be sure things twice as often as Gilbert Miller does; and, in the run of things lately, it has done little to challenge the chances that even the maligned Shuberts have taken with such plays as Sierra's "The Kingdom of God" (the Guild has its popular stars even as the Shuberts have Ethel Barrymore), as Drinkwater's "Bird in Hand," and as Cassello's "Death Takes a Holiday."

III

One Ring Circus

The theatre that aims at amusement alone —which isn't such a bad aim after all—is represented pretty well at its best in Ring Lardner's and George S. Kaufman's "June Moon," as funny a spiel as has come this way in some time. As a play, the exhibition is something less than no great shakes, but as a laugh brewery it tickles the critical ribs in a very benign fashion. Based roughly on Lardner's excellent short story "Some Like Them Cold," it goes after the spectator's horselaughs with both fists—and does it get them? After a prologue that is flat, it opens fire and it doesn't let up until the last curtain falls.

Lardner is generally praised for his gift of recording the common speech with a jocose exactness. But in the praise there is often overlooked his even greater talent, to wit, the quick stamping of character by means of a discriminating analysis of the content of such speech as the particular character would think in it and use it. It is a talent that even George Ade never possessed in his slang day, for Ade's characters' speech issued from their mouths rather than, as in Lardner's case, from their intrinsic natures. There is hardly a character in "June Moon," for instance, that doesn't become immediately recognizable for what he afterwards fully proves himself to be the moment he opens his lips and says his first say. In his play as in his stories, Lardner pictures character not so much by act as by speech, not so much by physical identification as by verbal. And I am not certain, for all the critical elo-

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quence often issued to the contrary and for all that is written about introspection, psychic development and incisive external description, that this isn't at times a pretty good method.

"As a man thinketh, so is he in his heart" may be true enough, but as a man outwardly speaketh, so is he, also, in his essential nature, even when he happens to be something of a fraud and faker. The character of the man who said "We are never more true to ourselves than when we are inconsistent" and "Misfortunes one can endure, they come from outside, they are accidents; but to suffer for one's faults —ah! there is the sting of life"—the character of such a man is thereby as quickly to be appraised as from Sherard's or any other such elaborate study of him. The character of the poet who on his deathbed said, "Lift me up, Horace, I want to so-and-so," flashes back into a composite picture of his earthly mind, attitude and psyche. We often recognize, know, understand and remember men from so little as a single typical and illuminating expression. "Après moi, le déluge!", "My only regret is that I have but one life to give to my country," "God is on the side of the strongest artillery," "Was für Plünderung!", "The public be damned," "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone" and "She hit me first" each provides a more eloquent analysis of its spokesman's character than any ten thousand words of description that might be written of him. "You know me, Al," is a snapshot of a man revelatory of his nature, character and very look.

As you hear Lardner's dialogue you promptly recognize and know intimately, even with your eyes closed, the men who speak it. You can see their faces, their clothes, their each future act, their very souls. The common notion that Lardner is simply a phonograph is silliness glorified. He is a sharp observer and creator of character who masks his high proficiency in that greatest misgiving and hobgoblin of professorial criticism: low humor.

IV

Spanish Drama

Whenever such a play as the Quinteros' "A Hundred Years Old" ("El Centenario") is produced here and fails to make much of an impression, there is a critical disposition to attribute its failure (*a*) to the local unfamiliarity with and hence disinterest in Spanish provincial types, (*b*) to the placid uneventfulness of its dramaturgy, and (*c*) to the too great calm implicit in its theme. That the failure is due rather and simply to the fact that it is a very bad play does not seem to occur to those who choose to make a difficult problem out of something as plain as the noses on their faces.

The truth about much of present-day Spanish drama is that it is so greatly underwritten that it is hardly drama at all, but merely drama struggling for birth in its own womb. This underwriting is accepted in certain critical quarters as a virtue founded upon deliberate artistic reticence, when what it actually is founded upon is imaginative impotence and dramaturgical ineptitude. A play like "A Hundred Years Old" fails to warm its auditor not because of its unfamiliar personages, its placidity or its supine theme but because its authors do not know how to lay hold of its materials and inject a dramatic life, however moderate, into them.

Martinez Sierra, among modern Spanish playwrights, most closely resembles the Quintero brothers in approach, manner and technique of writing but, though his plays, like theirs, are lacking in what we call action, they nevertheless contain a sufficient measure of theatrical glow to create something of a stir out front. They are not sound plays any more than the Quinteros' are, but the writing in them, unlike the latters', is often—apart from considerations of theatrical drama—lifting on its own account and so from time to time catches the attention of the reader-mind in the audience even when the

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dramatic-mind in that audience is left unsatisfied. Each critical objection to "A Hundred Years Old" may be lodged with equal exactness against "Cradle Song" or "The Kingdom of God," yet such plays of Sierra, as audiences have proven, exercise an effect that the Quinteros' play does not. The Quinteros are cold writers; their plays, whether good or bad, remain cold. Sierra's is a warmer pen; his plays, whether good or bad in turn, have some degree of heat.

Criticism, as I have hinted, has a way of walking all around the block in such cases in order to get to the house next door. It searches pedantically for reasons that do not figure in the argument and that are brought forth just to make things look a little harder. The shenanigan is always observable when a play from the south of Europe happens along, for there seems to be something about the Latin drama, however negligible, that makes critics believe it calls upon their more punditical faculties and demands of them an unwonted sobriety. Three times out of four it does so no more than the Broadway drama or the Piccadilly drama, yet the critical nonsense persists. Quite as many bad plays are written in Spain and Italy as are written in New York and Chicago, but it will be some years before our theatrical commentators persuade themselves to suck in the news.

The reasons cited by the critics for the failure of the Quintero play are not reasons at all; their hollowness may readily be appreciated by assigning them, with equal relevance, to plays that have succeeded. If, for example, local unfamiliarity with and hence disinterest in certain remote and alien types are responsible for the failure of "El Centenario," a like local unfamiliarity with and theoretical disinterest in Silesian peasants have somehow not caused the plays of Hauptmann to be failures. If, for further example, the failure of the Quinteros' play is to be ascribed to the placid uneventfulness of its dramaturgy, the success of some such play as Davies' "The Mollusc" must be explained paradoxically in the same way. And if, in still further example, the Spanish play fails because of the too great calm implicit in its theme, Barrie's "Alice-Sit-by-the-Fire" should surely fail on the same grounds.

V

Brief Mention

George Kelly's "Maggie, the Magnificent," though it contains several well-handled episodes, reveals in general the portentous dramatic floorwalker air that has come to corrupt its author's writings. This Kelly possesses a nice, modest talent for the theatre which he strives assiduously to pass off as genius. The result is a botching of plays that, were they written within his means, might constitute good minor entertainment. Frederick Ballard's "Ladies of the Jury" is an amalgam of slapstick and box-office hokum offered to lovers of dramatic art by America's Most Intellectual Actress.

"The Channel Road," by the Messrs. Woollcott and Kaufman, is a sweetly sentimental version of Maupassant's escharotic "Boule de Suif," that plot-pet of innumerable hopeful playwrights. The dramatization, surprisingly enough in view of Kaufman's skill in such matters, is listless to the point of lethargy. "The Middle Watch" by Messrs. Hay and King-Hall, is the type of farce that British audiences laugh uproariously at and that evokes only American yawns. "Jenny," by Margaret Ayer Barnes and Edward Sheldon, is the worst kind of rubbish. "The Criminal Code," by Martin Flavin, amounts to little; the critical assessors, many of them, have confounded its admirable production with manuscript excellences.

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THE LIBRARY

BY H. L. MENCKEN

Beethoveniana

BEETHOVEN THE CREATOR, by Romain Rolland. $5. 6½ x 9½; 432 pp. New York: *Harper & Brothers.*

BEETHOVEN, THE MAN WHO FREED MUSIC, by Robert Haven Schauffler. $10. 9⅜ x 6⅛; 2 vols.; 693 pp. Garden City, L. I.: *Doubleday, Doran & Company.*

DEAD a hundred years, old Ludwig still grips and fevers all men to whom music is anything more than another kind of noise. Here are two new works upon him, both fat and formidable, running altogether to more than a thousand pages and bristling with musical quotations, documents and footnotes. This, in itself, is a kind of immortality, for men do not waste so much paper and ink upon the departed who are really dead. Nor is the end in sight. M. Rolland, after devoting thirty-two pages of an appendix to Beethoven's relations to the celebrated Brunsvik sisters, gives notice that he has barely skirted the edges of the subject, and that on some future day, God being willing, he plans to devote a whole volume to it. As for Mr. Schauffler, he goes through all of the Beethoven scores with a fine-toothed comb, and then, after unearthing and exhibiting many marvels, has to admit sadly that the half has not been revealed, nor indeed the third or the fourth.

M. Rolland, despite the size of his book, makes no effort to cover Beethoven's whole career. He begins with the Eroica and ends with the "Fidelio" fiasco, surely a small enough segment. Indeed, he discusses only three works at any length: the Eroica, the Appassionata, and "Fidelio." The last-named he puts far higher than any other critic that I am aware of. He speaks of it as "the king-oak of the forest," and deplores the fact that Wagner, "encumbered with metaphysic," could not grasp its "grand and classical humanity." It is, he says, "the monument of a better Europe of which, on the threshold of the Nineteenth Century, Goethe and Beethoven had a glimpse, and that a hundred years of subsequent torment have not been able to realize." Following it, there appeared a demoniac element in Beethoven's writing, especially in the Rasoumovsky quartettes, and the "hunges of his soul" began to grate. It may be so, but I must confess that the evidence is not altogether clear to me. I am rather inclined to believe, indeed, that there is quite as much of this demonism in the first movement of the Eroica, and notably in the coda thereof, as you will find in all that comes after, not forgetting even the last quartettes.

Following the French tradition, M. Rolland mingles criticism of the work of art with gossip about the artist. His long discussion of the Brunsvik ladies I have already mentioned. In another appendix he examines the question as to the causes of Beethoven's deafness, and turns for aid to a Dr. Marage, a French otologist, who lately read a paper on the subject before the Académie des Sciences. Dr. Marage, after an exhaustive review of the somewhat scanty evidence, concludes that most of the causes which Beethoven himself suggested were impossible. Deafness coming on in the way that his did could not have been produced by otosclerosis of the middle ear, or by typhus affecting the auditory centers, or by a middle ear otitis following influenza, or by trauma following a fall, or by syphilis. There remains one possibility: that it was caused by a labyrinthitis set up by a long-standing auto-intoxication. But this hypothesis, though it shows an agreeable fancifulness, does not satisfy M. Rolland. He is all for believing that Beethoven was made deaf, not by anything so prosaic as microbes or their toxins, but by the

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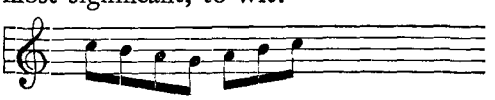
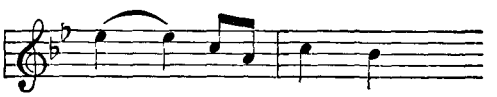
sheer power of his own genius. To support that notion he resorts to the testimony of East Indian mystics who say that they "come out of their spells of Yoga with eyes red and bleeding, as if eaten by ants." Old Ludwig, of course, knew nothing of such spells, but when he sat down to compose music "the hammering of the rhythm" and "the sensuous heat of the orchestral color" worked much the same effect upon him, and so his brain was heavily battered, and his auditory centers began to disintegrate. It is all very lovely, but my duty to my art compels me to add that, with all due respect for M. Rolland, it strikes me as hard to distinguish from damned foolishness.

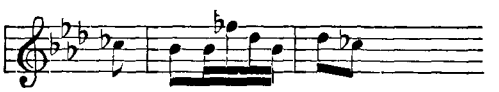
All the critics of Beethoven, alas, seem to be tempted to such highfalutin stuff. Even Mr. Schauffler shows the stigma, though he is naturally a sober fellow, and his account of Beethoven's life is marked by a considerable common sense. It is when he essays to analyze the Master's music that he begins to see things. What he sees chiefly is a long series of recurring patterns. These he calls, at different times, germ-motives or source-motives. That Beethoven actually made use of them is of course familiar to everyone, for a shining example glares at the world from the first two measures of the C minor symphony. But that he was at pains to stick them into everything he wrote, sometimes so stealthily that it is hard to unearth them—this seems to me to be somewhat unlikely. The fact is that, like any other composer, he had a natural weakness for certain idioms, and that their appearance in his scores is often evidence, not that he was trying to out-smart all other composers, but simply that he was taking the easiest way. In many cases those idioms were not his own inventions, but came from the common store of music. Certainly that must be said of one that Mr. Schauffler seems to find most significant, to wit:



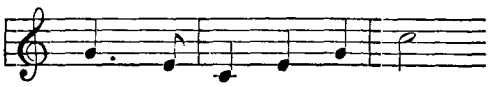
What have we here? Obviously, no more than a pattern that becomes almost inevitable when a composer tries to make a tune or part of a tune out of the diatonic scale. He can't go up or down that scale forever; soon or late he must turn back. Well, the moment he turns back he produces what is substantially this Beethovenish source-motive, either as it stands or in inversion. The same pattern, indeed, is to be found in the work of every composer who runs to diatonic melody, and probably also in that of all who do not. So with most of the other patterns that Mr. Schauffler discusses with such laudable learning. They simply come from the common stock. That Beethoven preferred this one to that one is probably true, and that he used all of them with far greater skill than anyone else is also true, but that he attached any esoteric significance to them is highly improbable. Not infrequently, in order to sustain his case, Mr. Schauffler has to reinforce his observations with a considerable fancy. In one place, for example, he quotes the following phrase from "Adelaide":



and then says complaisantly that it "reappears" in this from the *adagio* of the Harp quartette:



As a matter of fact, the two phrases are but little more alike than



and

Thus I find it impossible to follow Mr. Schauffler all the way. But his industry is

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certainly to be praised, and with it his genuine delight in Beethoven. If his work accomplishes no other good, it may at least induce other music-lovers to give hard study to the scores. They well deserve it, for they are full of gorgeous surprises and no man knows them so well that he may safely believe he knows them completely. At the end of his book Mr. Schauffler shows how their study may be carried on with the aid of phonograph and player-piano records. Both his book and M. Rolland's are well illustrated.

Stuart P. Sherman

LIFE AND LETTERS OF STUART P. SHERMAN, by Jacob Zeitlin and Homer Woodbridge. $10. 9¼ x 6¼; 2 vols.; 880 pp. New York: *Farrar & Rinehart.*

THESE volumes are so formidable in heft and bulk as to be almost forbidding; nevertheless, they are full of rewards for the patient explorer, for Sherman was a very interesting man, and his writings left a considerable mark upon the criticism of his time. Unfortunately, the job of editing his remains was left to a pair of minor pedagogues, and so the result shows a great deal more diligence and piety than intelligence. Whenever, in the course of their chronicle, the two editors encounter an unfavorable notice of a Sherman book, they at once suspect foul play and seem to be on the point of sending for the college proctor. Thus Francis Hackett, for the high crime of stating his honest views in a review, is accused "not only of unfairness but of very questionable sincerity," Ernest Boyd is flayed furiously for what becomes in the telling "a vicious and unscrupulous assault," and even the amiable Ludwig Lewisohn, the mildest man who ever singed a Christian, is put among the wicked conspirators, apparently because of his "suave and velvety style." It is all very amusing, but I have some doubt that Sherman himself, come back to life, would regard it as noticeably sensible.

Worse, the two pedagogues seem to be quite unable to grapple rationally with the one really important question that the career of the man presents—to wit, the question as to the genesis of his singularly complete and dramatic *volte-face*. He began, as everyone knows, as an extraordinarily ardent defender of the tightly academic point of view, and the writings that first got him notice were violent attacks upon every exponent of naturalism. He ended at the other pole, with high praises for some of the very men he had once denounced. What caused this amazing change of front? How did he come to overhaul himself so radically in midstream, and with a big crowd watching from the bank? You will search the present volumes from end to end without encountering any plausible answer. The common theory in New York seems to be that moving to that great city did the business—that Sherman was somehow upset and remade by escaping from the dull, petty, idiotic atmosphere of Urbana, a fifth-rate college town, and getting into the freer and more electric air of Manhattan. But that theory is far too facile to be convincing. So intelligent a man is not easily shaken by such externals. There was, to be sure, a good deal of feeling in him, and on occasion he yielded to it lamentably, but on the whole he was steered by his head, and it was a head that was usually cool. Thus it could not have been the gabble of New York that changed his course; it must have been something that went on inside him, and no doubt it began long before he ever joined the staff of the *Herald Tribune*.

My guess is that it was the gradual discovery that there was a great deal of very dubious stuff mixed into the high-sounding Humanism of his first masters, Professor Irving Babbitt and Dr. Paul Elmer More. At the time Sherman began to write these men were of immense esteem in the more enlightened academic circles, and the arcanum that they preached was hailed as a means of deliverance from all the evils of the time. They represented not only learning, but also a sort of nobility. Disdaining the current cyclones and siroccos of doc-

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trine, they struck back to the lofty serenity of the Renaissance, and even to the olympian exaltation of Periclean Rome. There was something remote and high-toned about them; they appeared to be the heralds of a new aristocracy of the intellect, that would concern itself only with the eternal verities. Compared to them, the common scriveners of the day, rooting obscenely in the muck of the forthright and the obvious, shaken by their discoveries in sordid factories and lowly tenements, and setting forth their reactions (the word was still new then) in plain and often halting English—compared to Babbitt and More, such fellows seemed intolerably vulgar. Like many another young college instructor, sweating for light and leading, Sherman followed the two red glares. In Babbitt he saw a reincarnation of Matthew Arnold, with overtones of Goethe; in More he saw a new and better Plato. So he began to write according to their specifications, earnestly, cocksurely but not without charm, and soon he was being vastly praised by other college instructors, some of them young like himself and others old.

Unfortunately, all book reviews are not written by college instructors, whether old or young. There are also other professors of the art, and not a few of them, at the time Sherman began to be heard of, had already come to the conclusion that Babbitt and More, though unquestionably learned and righteous men, were yet far from trustworthy guides in either literature or life. Some professed to discern a great deal of mere wind in them—a gaudy parade of ideas that, at bottom, were really not ideas at all, but simply attitudes. Others thought they saw something worse: a sneaking nostalgia for the Christian formulæ that they pretended to disdain—in fine, a flash of John Calvin's eye through Plato's whiskers. These skeptics, falling upon Sherman as fitter for combat than such remote and arctic fellows as Babbitt and More themselves, denounced the notions that he got from them with great ferocity, and presently a somewhat unseemly battle was in progress, with both sides doing a lot of shouting. It is to the credit of Sherman's skill as a polemist that he carried on his defense with great pertinacity and ingenuity; it is to the credit of his intelligence that he came to see, finally, that the other side had considerably the better of the argument. In the realms of the intellect, of course, men do not change sides overnight; it takes time for them to reorganize themselves. Sherman, perhaps, would have done it more quickly if the war had not popped up to rattle him; as it was, he was run amok by its blather as he had been run amok by the far more subtle blather of Babbitt and More, and the peace had to come before he could return to normalcy. But once he had got back he made short work of his old confidence in the so-called Humanist programme. In brief, he flopped magnificently, and so, even beyond T. S. Eliot, he became the most brilliant disciple that Babbitt and More ever lost. When he went they must have felt sore and solitary indeed, for Babbitt shinned down from his Doric pole and began to call names like the foreman of a composing-room, and More applied himself gloomily to a pious life of Christ, now in high repute among Baptist and Presbyterian clergymen.

There was always a great deal of boyish gusto in Sherman, and whatever he had to say, whether pro or con, he said with hearty enthusiasm. Thus, when he took Dreiser out of his tub of brine and began to examine the fellow with a friendly eye, he discovered virtues that even the most advanced Dreiserians—fanatics who could read even "The 'Genius'" with pleasure—were unaware of. His praise of "An American Tragedy," I daresay, shocked a good many of them, especially when they put it beside his previous dispraise of "The Titan" and "Jennie Gerhardt." The general view among them, then as now, was that the latter were far better works than the former. But they did not stay to labor the point, for on the one hand all of them

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had been guilty of far worse excesses themselves, and on the other hand they were too eager to welcome Sherman to be raising embarrassing questions. So he came into camp to the tune of hosannas, with only a few derisive snorts from the back ranks. He brought with him an excellent armamentarium, lying easily to his uses. He had a deft hand for clear and orderly exposition; he knew how to argue effectively; he wrote gracefully and well. In everything he did there were signs of hard and conscientious labor. He never threw things off idly, even after he had gone to work for a newspaper; he prepared for the most casual article by diligent study. And there was behind everything he wrote the high enthusiasm of a man who genuinely loved books—a man who had been soaked in them from childhood and could not imagine a world without them. He was thus literary in the best sense. He did not make a show of his learning, but he had plenty of it, and it was singularly catholic.

His lamentable performance during the war years, when he tried to raise the mob against his opponents by appeals to tin-pot patriotism—this sad aberration is passed over lightly by the two pedagogues, and perhaps it is just as well. They report Carl Van Doren's opinion that he was, on recovering from his madness, ashamed of it, and they print his own somewhat equivocal denial. All we may safely assume is that if he was not actually ashamed, then he was certainly not proud. But in having such inconvenient ghosts to lay he was certainly not alone, for scores of other American *literati* carried on almost as absurdly. What is more interesting is the probable course of his career if he had lived. My guess is that he would have thrown up his *Herald Tribune* job before many moons had passed, for it was making a hack of him and he knew it. I suspect that he would have graduated, too, from the *Atlantic Monthly*, for its pull was plainly against his free development. It tended to make a Samuel McChord Crothers of him, popular with the saucier kinds of suburban club-women, but as hollow as a jug. His true future, it seems to me, lay in sterner fields. There was behind him a rich and varied experience, and he had shown a remarkable capacity for enlarging his ideas as he increased in years. He had within him potentialities that his published work barely points to. Dead at forty-five, he was barely beginning his work. His death was a catastrophe, not only to his followers but also to his opponents.

The present collection of his literary remains is raw material only. The two pedagogues are not equal to the task of making a coherent biography of it. They write as Sherman himself might have written at the age of eighteen. It is to be hoped that some more competent hand will do a life of him, searching out the secrets of his curiously interesting personality and relating him plausibly to the movement of ideas in his time.

Portrait of a Christian Woman

CARRY NATION, by Herbert Asbury. $3. 8⅛ x 5⅛; 307 pp. New York: *Alfred A. Knopf.*

CARRY NATION, though she lived until 1920, already threatens to be forgotten. It is a pity, for of all the wowsers who have trod the soil of these Christian States since the Civil War, she was in many ways the most amusing and the most effective. Mr. Asbury does well to give her a large part of the credit for the triumph of Prohibition. Until she invented her hatchet technique the tide was plainly running against the drys. They had learned how to get laws on the books, but they had not learned how to shut up saloons, and so their hearts were growing faint. But the crash of the first barroom mirror that she smashed showed them a way out, and presently they were belching smoke from every funnel, and Prohibition was on its way. Now, with Carry gone, the pendulum swings back again. Day by day the saloons grow bolder; soon, perhaps, they will flaunt their signs from every street-corner, as they did in

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Kansas before she began her crusade. For direct action takes courage—and not many wowsers have the kind that poor, distracted, half-witted Carry had.

Mr. Asbury tells her story politely, and yet with a great deal of pawky humor. He has gone to the pains of searching court records and sniffing through old newspapers, and so a great deal that is unfamiliar is in his chronicle and not a little that is commonly believed is missing. There seems to be little doubt that Carry was *mashuggah*. Insanity ran in her family, and her mother postured as Queen Victoria for many years, and finally died in an asylum. But it took more than mere mental instability to make her the horrific avenger that she was. The thing needed was a great emotional crisis, a devastating and incurable sorrow, and it came in the form of her first husband's death. He died of drink, and from the moment he was laid away Carry was ready for the barricades. For strange as it may seem, she loved him passionately. Strange as it may seem, such appalling caricatures of the human female, fierce, frowsy, broad-bottomed and revolting—such sad victims of Yahweh's evil humors have hearts too, and necks that crave necking, and so on and so on. Thus the story of Prohibition in the United States is partly, at least, a love story! In dealing with such things Mr. Asbury is at his best. His saga of Carry, I think, is even better than his saga of his immortal great-uncle, Bishop Asbury.

The Chinese As They Really Are

MODERN CHINESE CIVILIZATION, by A. F. Legendre. $2.75. 7⅞ x 5¼; 295 pp. New York: *Jonathan Cape & Harrison Smith.*

Dr. Legendre, a French physician who has lived in China for years, mainly away from the coast, has a very low opinion of the Chinese. Most of the pretty things that one hears about them, he says, are false. They are far less honest than they are said to be, their cleverness is confined to a small minority and even so is largely illusory, and their so-called learning is almost wholly buncombe. Dr. Legendre says that they are ignorant beyond compare, and filthy almost beyond belief. Their daily routine of life is more like that of hogs than like that of men, and they show very little desire to improve it. They live contentedly as they have lived for endless centuries—stupid, slavish and sodden. Save in a few seaports the civilization of the West has made no more impression upon them than it has made upon the Baptists of backwoods Arkansas. To call them barbarians is almost flattery. In large part, they are still Paleolithic.

This is somewhat surprising stuff, but Dr. Legendre seems to know what he is talking about. He describes at length the life of a typical Chinese town, and it is a town that he has lived in for years. Nothing so foul is to be encountered in the Southern cotton-mill belt or in the Pennsylvania mining region. The people simply wallow in filth. Their houses are cold and stinking, they are clad in rotting rags, and they eat such victuals as most dogs would turn from. Dr. Legendre believes that all thought of reforming their country from within must be abandoned. The young intellectuals who undertake the business, he says, are mainly frauds, and as soon as they get any power into their hands they set up as military dictators and begin oppressing the common people. He holds that the only way to rescue the latter is by *force majeure*, applied from without. In brief, he is in favor of the Powers taking charge of China, and urges that it be done at once, before the current uproars make a bad case quite hopeless. If they do not, he says, the country will go to pieces, and large sections of it will fall to the enterprising Japs.

All this, as I say, is somewhat surprising, for the Chinese usually get good press notices. The very fact makes it the more worth pondering. For Dr. Legendre, whatever his prejudices, at least knows what he is talking about. His conclusions may be challenged, but it would be hard to cavil at his facts. He has made a very interesting and instructive book.

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THE AMERICAN MERCURY AUTHORS

JAMES M. CAIN'S *sketch in this issue will form part of a book, "Our Government," to be published next month. He is a New York newspaper man.*

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EMORY HOLLOWAY *is the subject of an Editorial Note in this issue.*

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OWEN P. WHITE *is the subject of an Editorial Note in this issue.*

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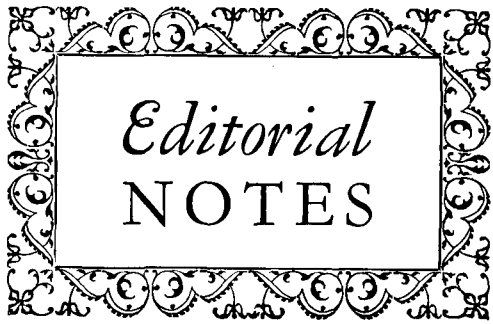

Emory Holloway

EMORY HOLLOWAY, author of "Whitman as His Own Press-Agent," is perhaps the greatest authority on Whitman in the United States today. In 1927 he was awarded the Pulitzer prize for his "Whitman: An Interpretation in Narrative." He is the author of the Whitman articles in the Cambridge History of American Literature and the Encyclopedia Britannica. He has edited many of the poet's books, and written extensively about him for the reviews. His previous articles for THE AMERICAN MERCURY have been the following: "More Light on Whitman," February, 1924; "A Whitman Manuscript," December, 1924; and " Some New Whitman Letters," February, 1929.

Mr. Holloway was born in Missouri in 1885, but has lived in several sections of the United States, North and South. He

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Other famous Union Pacific trains to California include the new 58 hour, extra fare Overland Limited; the 63 hour no extra fare San Francisco Limited; the Gold Coast Limited; Pacific Limited and Continental Limited from Chicago—the Pacific Coast Limited from St. Louis and Kansas City.

Make your next California journey even more enjoyable than the last—aboard the Los Angeles Limited or one of its fine companion trains.

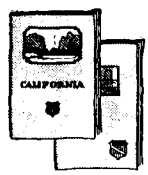
C. J. Collins, General Passenger Agent, Dept. 378
Union Pacific System, Omaha, Neb.
Please send me complete information and booklets on
California ☐ Hawaii ☐
Death Valley—(*California's unique winter resort*) ☐

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____

Send coupon today for California booklets which fully explain the Overland Route's famous fleet of fine trains



Union Pacific

THE OVERLAND ROUTE

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It's vital... this Danger Line

THE MOST susceptible part of your mouth to dental disease is The Danger Line, the delicate margin of tissue where the gums join the teeth. Pyorrhea always starts here . . . much of tooth decay too.

Here and in the minute pits and crevices of the teeth, food particles lodge, ferment and generate dangerous acids, causing destruction of the enamel and irritation of the gums.

The tooth-brush bristles cannot reach these places. But Squibb's Dental Cream does; it protects as it cleans. Squibb's Dental Cream contains over 50% Milk of Magnesia, the safest, most effective antacid for oral use. Every time you brush your teeth with Squibb's, tiny particles of Milk of Magnesia are forced into all the mouth crevices, neutralize acids and protect The Danger Line.

You'll like the refreshing flavor of Squibb's. A large tube costs only 40c at any drug store.

E. R. Squibb & Sons, New York. *Manufacturing Chemists to the Medical Profession since* 1858.

© 1929 by E. R. Squibb & Sons

SQUIBB'S DENTAL CREAM

The Priceless Ingredient of every Product is the Honor and Integrity of Its Maker.

Editorial NOTES

Continued from page lx

was educated at Hendrix College, the University of Texas, and Columbia. For the past fifteen years he has been professor of English at Adelphi College. During the war he was overseas for a year, doing transport, hut and educational work, and teaching in the A. E. F. University.

Owen P. White

OWEN P. WHITE, who wrote "Five El Paso Worthies" in this issue, contributes frequently to the reviews, and is the author of four books. His previous articles for THE AMERICAN MERCURY have been: "El Paso," August, 1924; "A Glance at the Mexicans," February, 1925; "Shafter," August, 1925; "Diatribe on a Manly Theme," May, 1926; "Reminiscences of Texas Divines," September, 1926; "Buckets of Blood," March, 1929; and "The Art of Drink on the Border," July, 1929.

He was born fifty years ago in a one-room adobe hut about five hundred miles from the nearest railroad, and at almost the exact geographical center of what is now

Continued on page lxvi

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The NEW FRONTIER *of* INDUSTRY

FOR three centuries America marched west. As the frontier advanced, industries born of and nurtured by the farms and trade of new settled lands clustered in fast growing cities. In moving westward, Americans moved cityward also. Industry tended to concentrate because, among other reasons, an adequate power supply was to be had only in limited areas.

The westward and cityward movements left great gaps of scantily developed country. Thousands of small communities dot such districts. They have been mere market places—built upon the general store, not the factory. Now that the frontier no longer moves west, a new frontier is discovered in the "open spaces." Industry is steadily advancing upon the new frontier, filling in the areas between the populous centers formed during the westward sweep of settlers and railroads.

This new trail for the factory has been blazed by electric power.

Just as concentrated power distorted the distribution of industry, drawing it from the small town and countryside into the crowded cities, so diffused power is releasing industry from its metropolitan confinement. The electrified small community can accommodate the industries which look to America's new frontier for economical and logical location. And the modern motor highway and railroad have made wider markets easily accessible to the small-town factory.

The movement of electric power to the new industrial frontier is chief of the elements on which the small towns of America have built their present-day progress and prosperity.

▾ ▾ ▾ ▾

Provision of power supply to small communities on a scale equivalent to the service available in the great metropolitan centers is the achievement and responsibility of the Middle West Utilities System, a group of electric companies furnishing service to more than four thousand communities located in twenty-nine states.

The strategic position of the small town in American industrial development is fully discussed in the booklet, "America's New Frontier," which the Middle West Utilities Company (20 North Wacker Drive, Chicago, Illinois) will send upon request.

MIDDLE WEST UTILITIES COMPANY

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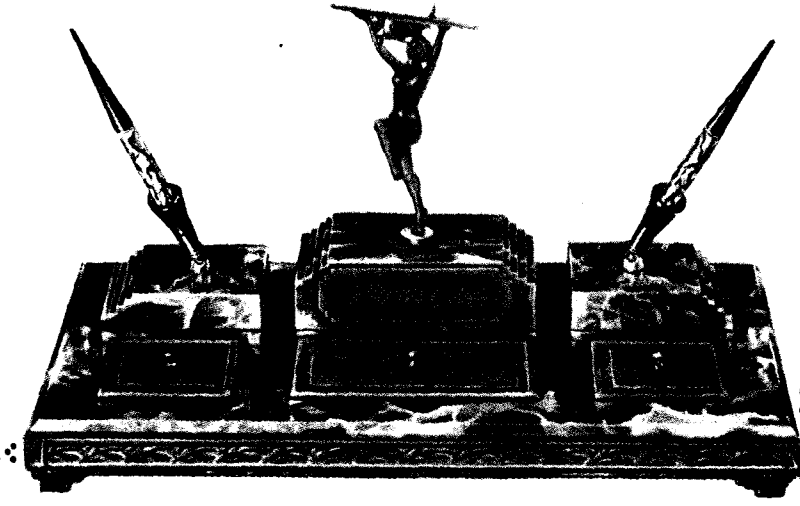
Pocket Cap & Clip **FREE** *with Every Desk Pen... Giving Two Pens in one Convertible Duofold is Parker's Greeting & Surprise this Christmas*



"Spirit of Aviation" base of green onyx, $250.00

For Christmas

Streamline Pens and Pencils

NEW MEMBERS

of the Parker Duofold

FAMILY

$18.00 — Chromium Cigarette Lighter and Convertible

Streamline Duofold Jr. Pen in base of Inlaid Enamel.

$8.00—Chromium Plated Base with Inlaid Enamel top in Green, Blue or Lavender, with Convertible Moiré Pen to match, including Free Pocket Cap, in Traveling Case.

Obtainable only in Parker Pens and Pencils is this beautiful, symmetrical *Streamline* shape; also a Pocket Cap and Clip with every Desk Set Pen.

PRODUCED BY ADS BY UNZ.ORG
ELECTRONIC REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

$10.00—*Black Metal Base, places for scratch pad and clips. Convertible Streamline Duofold Jr. Pen.*

$37.50—*Green Onyx Base, with two Convertible Duofold Jr. Pens, including Free Pocket Caps and Clips.*

pered end transforms it to a Desk Pen. Removing the taper restores it to a Pocket Pen.

Thus those who give Parker Desk Sets will give a Pocket Duofold, too; and those who give Parker Pocket Pens alone [without desk bases] will be giving also half of a Desk Set. To have a desk set later their loved ones will not have to buy an extra pen. A base will be enough.

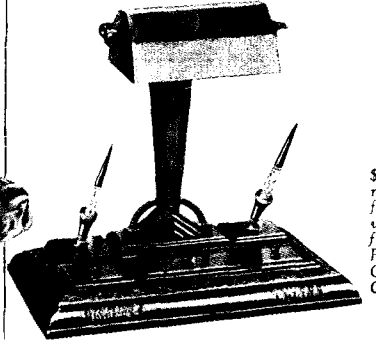
No other pens and pencils set so low or look so neat in the pocket as Parker's new *Streamline* Duofold with a clip that starts — not halfway down the cap — but at the *tip!*

Pressureless Point, jewel-color Permanite Barrel [28% lighter than rubber, yet non-breakable], 24% greater ink capacity than average, size for size, and guaranteed forever against all defects.

Good dealers everywhere are ready with Parker's new Streamline shapes for Christmas.

The Parker Pen Company, Janesville, Wisconsin.

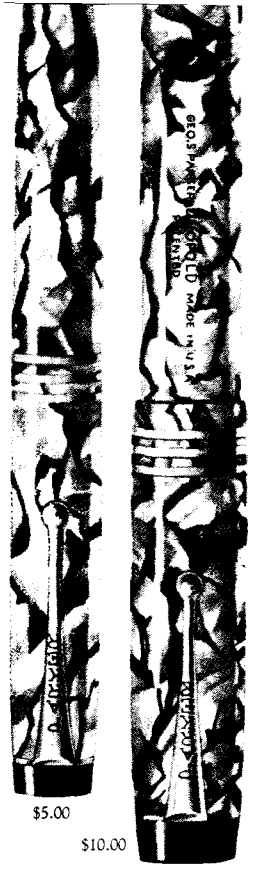
$57.50—*Onyx Base, Bronze Finished Elephants, two Convertible Streamline Duofold Jr. Pens.*



Desk Lamp and Writing Accessories

$100.00—*Base of Bronzed metal with compartments for clips, pins, erasers, etc., with two Convertible Duofold Sr. Black and Pearl Pens, including Free Pocket Caps and Clips. A De Luxe Christmas Gift for the Business Executive.*

$5.00



$5.00

$10.00

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Your baggage may never be lost or damaged-

BUT—it costs so little to have the peace of mind which a North America Personal Effects policy gives you! Maximum protection — minimum cost. Ask your insurance agent or broker.

North America agents are listed in the Insurance sections of Bell classified telephone directories under "INSURANCE CO. OF NORTH AMERICA."

Insurance Company of North America

PHILADELPHIA

"The Oldest American Fire and Marine Insurance Company"

Founded 1792

Or mail this coupon—

Insurance Company of North America
1600 Arch Street
Philadelphia, Pa. Dept. AM-12

Name .....

Street .....

City ..... *State* .....

wants information on Personal Effects Insurance

Editorial NOTES

Continued from page lxii

the city of El Paso. "My father and mother," he says,

> were both highly educated and broad-minded people. Therefore as I grew up I enjoyed the advantages of a cultured home, while outside of it I had the privilege of living in an environment that ranked, even in those days, as the most colorful, wicked and explosive of any on the Southwestern frontier. Under the circumstances I couldn't help absorbing impressions in both directions. On the one hand, I early acquired a taste for good reading, and on the other, at an equally early age, I began to acquire a first-hand knowledge of sin. I also attended the local public school—which didn't help much in the way of educating me—, and after graduating at the age of sixteen enrolled in the University of Texas. My stay there, however, was very brief. My father died at the end of four months, and I was compelled to go to work for a living.
>
> Since 1897 I have made one in various and sundry ways. I worked in a bank; I was a realtor; I was a rancher; I was a farmer; I practised law; I ran political campaigns in the turbulent State of New Mexico; I was a soldier in the late war to make the world safe for the Republicans; I sold horse feed; I played poker; I drank whiskey; and finally, about five and a half years ago, I yielded to the persuasion of a friend and wrote a history of the city of El Paso. The last hundred pages of it were devoted to biographies of the leading citizens of the town, and each of them paid $75 a page to get in. It was thus a financial success. It also brought me good luck. I sold a piece on El Paso to THE AMERICAN MERCURY, and at the solicitation of the New York *Times* came to New York to work for it. My newspaper career, however, was even shorter than my college one. At the end of three months in New York I published a second book, "Them Was the Days," and immediately thereafter I went to work for *Collier's*. In 1926 I got out a third book, "Trigger Fingers." A fourth one, "A Frontier Mother," has just been published. For the past five years I have made my living with my typewriter, and as I had lived on the border, in Mexico and in various parts of the Southwest, for forty-five years, my stock in trade, in the beginning, was naturally confined to articles and stories dealing with gun-men, gamblers, bartenders, horse thieves, painted ladies and Apache Indians. But lately I have branched out and devoted a good deal of my time to investigation and the writing of articles on politics, Prohibition, and religion.

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Hang Your Wish on a Tropical Night ...Cunard-Anchor West Indies Cruises include New Year's Eve in Havana...

The Old Year pelted out with tropical flowers . . . with Spanish Music . . . Parisian verve holding carnival on a lazy lilting tropic sea . . . A new way of wishing . . . a new way of feeling . . . Sidewalk cafés on the Prado . . . dropping into the Sevilla Biltmore . . . dancing and supping at the Marianao Playa . . . the dawn coming up in a singing burst of saffron . . . Isn't that a fair exchange for the same old whistles . . . the same old bells . . . the same old hanging out of the same old draughty window . . . ? Other and just as provocative cruises of 9, 12, 16, 18 and 26 days...all exemplifying the Cruise perfection identified with Cunard . . . luxury plus comfort in appointments and equipment...stewards who valet you . . . restaurants with the Cunard flair for epicurean surprises . . . Cheaper than staying at home.

VARIED ITINERARIES INCLUDING

San Juan, Santiago, Santo Domingo, Port-au-Prince, St. Pierre, Fort de France, Barbados, Trinidad, La Guayra, Curacao, Colon, Kingston, Havana, Nassau, Bermuda.

Sailing Date from New York	Steamer	Duration of Voyage	Minimum Rates
Dec. 3, 1929	s. s. Franconia	16 days	$200
Dec. 18, 1929	s. s. Carinthia	16 days	200
Dec. 21, 1929	s. s. Franconia	16 days	200
Dec. 26, 1929	s. s. Caronia	8 days	175
Dec. 27, 1929	s. s. Carmania	9 days	175
Jan. 6, 1930	s. s. Carinthia	16 days	200
Jan. 16, 1930	s. s. Caledonia	26 days	275
Feb. 15, 1930	s. s. Caledonia	26 days	275
Mar. 15, 1930	s. s. Caledonia	18 days	200
Apr. 12, 1930	s. s. Samaria	12 days	175

See Your Local Agent

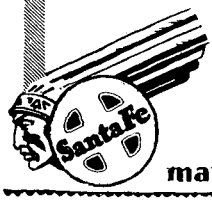
CUNARD-ANCHOR
WEST INDIES CRUISES

the Chief is still chief

fastest

and only extra fare train to Southern California

The California Limited and the Grand Canyon Limited are exclusively first class trains without extra fare. Then the Navajo, Scout and Missionary. Fred Harvey dining service is another distinctive feature of this distinctive railway.



The Indian-detour Grand Canyon Line

mail this coupon

W. J. Black, Pass. Traf. Mgr., Santa Fe Sys. Lines
1201 Railway Exchange, Chicago

Am interested in winter trip to_____

Please send me detailed information and descriptive folders.

Name_____

Address_____

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THE INVESTOR

"EARNINGS" ARE IN SEASON

By Rudolph L. Weissman

Already preliminary estimates of this year's earnings of leading corporations are appearing. Stockholders and creditors will be puzzled by the inconsistency between business reports and actual conditions as disclosed by financial policies. Sometimes, bewilderment turns into pleasure, but more often into mortification. A surfeit of illustrations is called to mind. Each has an explanation, but it is not from a casual reading of the annual report that is submitted that one finds the answers to the perplexing queries, What are earnings? What has become of them?

Within two months following the receipt of the pamphlet report describing the profitable operations during 1926, stockholders of many leading oil corporations waited in vain for the usual quarterly dividend check; and a large Cuban sugar enterprise "earned" in a single fiscal year 10% on its 7% preferred stock, yet made no reference to the resumption of dividend payments. On the other hand, "deficits" in the income account of a copper producer have been known to go hand in hand with increases in cash and liquid assets; and the manufacturer of an inexpensive food product with a stable market, whose "earnings" deviated from the average of a three-year period by less than 15%, suddenly increases his annual earnings from $11,000,000 to approximately $23,000,000. A new management took hold of the Kansas City Southern Railroad Company in 1905. The books showed "earnings" of about 4% on the preferred stock. Engineers found 25% of the engines in bad order, and 65% of the freight equipment unfit for use; embankments were not of proper width, cuts were too narrow, and the bridges dangerously weak. More than $7,000,000 was needed to place the road in proper condition.

At best, the income account is not a simple document. Except, possibly, in the last instance cited, no intention to deceive could be imputed to those responsible for the statements. Added to the inherent difficulties of proper interpretation are the lack of uniformity in accounting practice, the disinclination of corporations to furnish full, frank reports, and the habit of examining the income account without its complement, the statement of assets and liabilities. An income account is prepared to show the record of an enterprise for the period that it covers. If it is prepared to inform, not to furnish a riddle, it will contain the net sales, the expenses of operation, the source of income other than from the principal function of the business, the sums deducted for depreciation, and all legitimate adjustments. A corporation whose capital investment is in wasting assets will show the annual depletion charges; should the chief asset be a patent, a lease, or a formula, amortization allowances will be provided. Further details are desirable. At present, even vital items are omitted.

It will be observed that the record covers more than actual income and outgo. Other than actual out-of-pocket payments are deducted from gross income. Because such charge-offs are estimates, differences of opinion exist—honest and convenient—and these are the easiest figures to manipulate for the purpose of padding or understating genuine earnings. Regardless of the expenditures for repairs and upkeep, to make no mention of obsolescence, most assets must be replaced in the course of

Continued on page lxx

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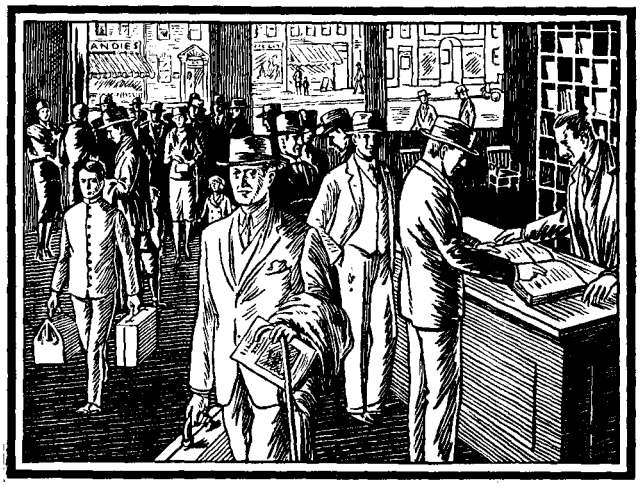
No. 9 of a series of Advertisements of American Water Works and Electric Company, Incorporated



. . . "29,000 rooms—and baths—please!"

"A ROOM and bath"—the first request of the traveling public when it arrives at its destination.

Subsidiaries of the American Water Works and Electric Company supply annually more than 650,000,000 gallons of water to more than 29,000 hotel rooms.

. . . a service ever in demand and one that never fails . . .

By providing not only water, but electricity, gas, or transportation to hundreds of thousands of customers in seventeen states, the subsidiaries of this Company earn a steady flow of revenue that assures the payment of interest and dividends to the holders of their own securities as well as to those of the American Water Works and Electric Company.

An Industry That Never Shuts Down

AMERICAN WATER WORKS AND ELECTRIC COMPANY
INCORPORATED
50 Broad Street, New York

[Information about this Company, or any of its subsidiaries, will be furnished on request. Write for Booklet K-1.]

© 1929

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THE LUXURY CRUISE

MEDITERRANEAN

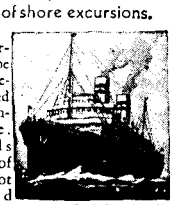
PALESTINE - EGYPT
71 DAYS OF DELIGHT
Sail away on the famous cruising steamer
ROTTERDAM
From N. Y. FEB. 6th 1930

Enjoy real comfort, entertainment, strictly first class service and unsurpassed cuisine.

Visiting 18 fascinating Mediterranean Ports

under Holland-America Line management

American Express Co. in charge of shore excursions.



The Rotterdam will be entirely reconditioned for this coming cruise. Real beds instead of berths, hot and cold running water, a delightful tile swimming pool and modern gymnasium are among the many other new improvements.

Write now for illustrated booklet "X"

HOLLAND - AMERICA LINE
21-24 STATE STREET, NEW YORK
Branch Offices and Agents in all principal Cities.

The INVESTOR

Continued from page lxviii

years. The class of property determines the proper annual allowance for eventual replacement. Whatever the sum, it is as much part of the cost of doing business as the pay-roll or the advertising bill.

Two laundries operate delivery trucks that were bought at the same time at a cost of $900,000. One deducts $180,000 yearly as part of the operating expenses, since 20% of the original cost is accepted as a reasonable rate for the depreciation of this asset. The second, which is about to invite the public to furnish the funds for expansion, has deducted only $90,000 annually, thus increasing "net income" by the difference. Is the latter business wealthier? Not unless one can lift oneself by one's bootstraps. The setting up of a reserve does not lessen cash; it merely reduces the sum at which net assets are carried on the books, and consequently, the surplus. Assuming that the second corporation uses its greater apparent earnings for the payment of dividends, the unsuspecting stockholders will find, in time, that the delivery system will have to be replaced when it is still carried on the books at a high figure in relation to original cost. Conversely, real earnings may be hidden by lavish allowances far in excess of accruing depreciation, or by outlays for additions to fixed assets that are charged against current earnings.

"Inventory profits" were the bane of business enterprises in the last inflationary period. When inventories are marked up from cost to market during price advances, "profits" will appear on unsold merchandise, to disappear as soon as prices return to more normal levels. The evil effects are intensified, since the favorable "earnings" are customarily used as the basis for liberal dividend disbursements and expansion. A large leather tanner and manufacturer had a smaller quantity of sides on hand at the end of 1919 than in 1916. The dollar value

Continued on page lxxii

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OTIS & CO.

Established 1899

MEMBERS
New York Stock Exchange
Cleveland Stock Exchange
Chicago Stock Exchange
Philadelphia Stock Exchange
Detroit Stock Exchange
Cincinnati Stock Exchange
New York Cotton Exchange
Chicago Board of Trade
New York Curb Exchange

CLEVELAND

New York — Chicago
Philadelphia — Detroit
Kansas City — Cincinnati
Toledo — Columbus
Akron — Louisville
Canton — Massillon
Denver — Colorado Springs
Boston — Milwaukee
St. Louis — Davenport

Selecting Investments

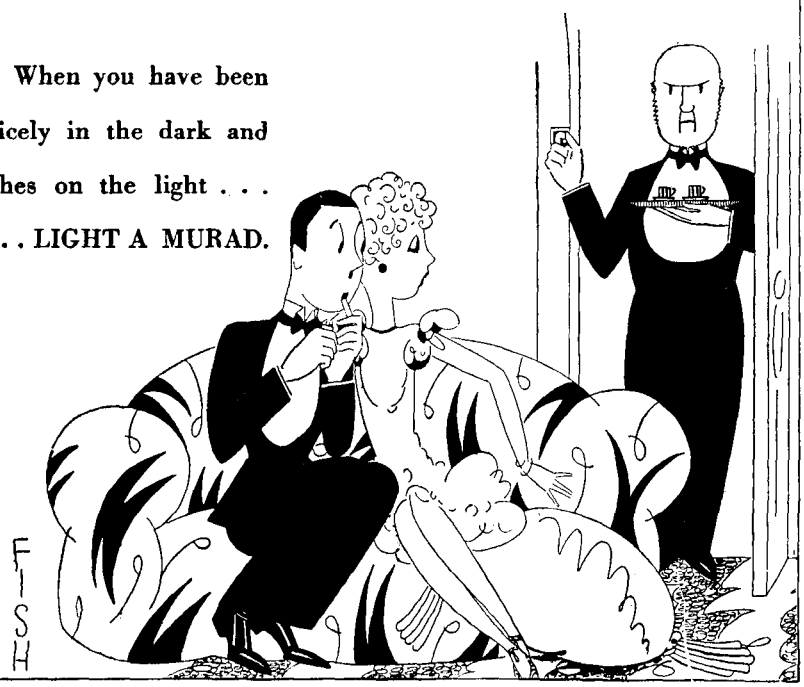
With the steady growth of industry, there has come, through public financing, a plethora of security offerings, so numerous and varied that the investor's problem becomes one of careful selection.

In this situation, it is logical to consult and rely upon experienced financial institutions.

We can recommend specific issues or relieve the investor of the perplexing problem of selection through the recommendation of issues of sound investment trust companies whose chief function, in arranging a portfolio is to discriminate between the great number of securities now available to the investor.

EMBARRASSING MOMENTS

When you have been getting on so nicely in the dark and somebody switches on the light . . . *be nonchalant* . . . LIGHT A MURAD.



© P. Lorillard Co., Est. 1760

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IMPORTED FROM EUROPE
WITH ORIGINAL FLAVOURS THAT CAN'T BE COPIED
Just the ingredients you need for holiday cocktails, punches, mixed drinks, etc.

HOLLOWAY'S LONDON DRY
Especially Distilled for the American Market. Direct from London.

GRENADINE NUYENS
Made in France Since 1808. A Delicious Flavouring Syrup for Manifold Uses.

CALORIC PUNCH
From Stockholm
A Luscious Flavour Similar to Bacardi. A Good Mixer.
If your grocer cannot supply you, write us. Send for illustrated recpie booklet AM.
B. B. DORF & CO.
350 West 31st Street, N. Y.

The **Ambassador**
"MONARCH OF THE BOARDWALK"
ATLANTIC CITY

Glorious December!
An Outdoor Month Down Here

There's golf . . . horseback riding on the Beach . . . Boardwalk diversions . . . every form of sport and recreation—with invigorating health from the sea.
Make The AMBASSADOR your headquarters for supreme enjoyment of the Christmas season.

European Plan Daily Rate
$5 to $14 Single — 685 Rooms
$8 to $16 Double — 685 Baths

The INVESTOR

Continued from page lxx

had jumped some $25,000,000. But in 1920–21 it dropped $30,000,000, and thus wiped out a surplus built up from 1912 to 1919. The International Harvester Company, whose business also requires it to keep in readiness large stocks, avoided both sensational earnings and drastic deflation. A basic inventory, representing a normal quantity of raw materials, work in process, and finished products, was valued at the actual 1916 cost. The "excess" inventory, or the quantity in excess of normal, was valued at cost or market, whichever was lower.

The income account is a story, the balance sheet a picture. The flow of income and expenses does not reveal the condition of the business. This is the function of the balance sheet, in the preparation of which it is assumed that the business unit is static for an instant. Here are listed the assets, the debts and the net worth. The effects of the operations set forth in the income account are discernible in the balance sheet. By comparing successive statements one may learn of the changes in the business relationships—the sources of funds absorbed by the business, and the destination of the funds acquired—whether earnings have become congealed in the form of plant capacity or of merchandise that may be unsaleable,—and whether, despite substantial earnings, current obligations are growing, and net working capital shrinking.

President Storey of the Santa Fé expressed a truism when he said that no railroad is ever completely finished. Railroad, electric light and power, and gas corporations are not expected to furnish from earnings the biggest source of growth. The urge and good sense to lay a little aside from earnings is felt both by the owner of the gasoline station and by the executives of the billion dollar business. Surplus earn-

Continued on page lxxiv

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Useppa Inn stands on beautiful Useppa Island which is off the West Coast of Florida.

WHERE will you go? When the air is bitter and it is most unpleasant underfoot, where will you go?

Useppa Inn and cottages will open on Wednesday, January 1st. This delightful group of buildings on its tropical island basks in the warm sunshine waiting—waiting with relaxation and recreation.

At Useppa you can play golf on one of the sportiest courses in the South. The holes are well trapped and the splendidly conditioned fairways roll from tee to green twixt rows of palms and beautiful stretches of water. And fishing—Useppa Island is right in the heart of the most famous fishing waters on the West Coast. All year round many varieties of fish are plentiful. Late in the winter and in early spring, the giant tarpon puts in his appearance. If you play tennis, courts of championship standard await you in a tropic glade by the water's edge. If you swim, the warm Gulf is tonic and Useppa's stretch of fine beach is ideal for "worshippers of the Sun." Guide boats will take you whither your fancy dictates.

At this early date, it is possible to make a selection of reservations. Until December 20th, please address communications to J. F. Vallely, Florida Gulf Coast Hotels, 220 West 42nd St., New York. After December 20th, write to Useppa Inn, Useppa Island, Lee County, Florida.

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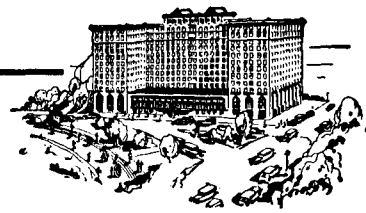

You will enjoy luxurious comfort at THE DRAKE, food unexcelled anywhere, and this unusual *added* advantage: you will be out of the noise and confusion of down-town Chicago, yet within easy walking distance of its shops and theatres. Rates as low as five dollars a day single room with bath, six double. Special discounts for extended stays. Write for Illustrated Booklet, Edition 11.

Under the Blackstone management known the world over

The DRAKE HOTEL Chicago

WHITAKER & Co. INC.

TAILORS

681 FIFTH AVENUE NEW YORK

AND AT 43 CONDUIT STREET LONDON W.

AMERICAN ACADEMY OF DRAMATIC ARTS

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The INVESTOR

Continued from page lxxii

ings cannot be retained wholly in cash, but when a manufacturing or trading business makes no addition, year after year, to its net current assets, exclusive of inventories, it is a suspicious sign. If net earnings seem small, but without borrowing or offering of additional stock, cash and investments in securities continue to mount, it is safe to assume that proper care is given to deferred maintenance and upkeep. Badly managed businesses are not often rich in treasury resources.

Consideration of the financial ratios that aid in the interpretation of income accounts and balance sheets is beyond the scope of this article. Extrinsic factors, such as general business conditions and the stage of the business cycle, should be read into all financial statements. To paraphrase a famous remark, what the country needs is a financial statement that does not assume the reader to be accountant-economist-lawyer and conjurer to boot.

New Financial Books

THE NEW PLACE OF THE STOCKHOLDER.
By John H. Sears *Harper & Brothers*
$4 8¾ x 6; 260 pp. *New York*

Although less trenchant than Professor Ripley's study of the stockholder's position, this work is equally frank in condemning the apathy of the stockholder and the more reprehensible attitude of corporation executives. Since Mr. Sears is the attorney for the Corporation Trust Company of New York, and represents many corporations, he cannot be accused of favoring the interests of the small shareholder. He remarks: "The typical corporation seems to say, 'Oh, what's the use?' How does it happen that the typical American stockholder takes the rumble seat in his own car without protest and seemingly without a murmur? This situation as a whole, in my opinion, is the most critical in our corporation situation today." He discusses the law and economics of business enterprise very skilfully, and the concrete illustrations from actual cases show from what varied sources he has gathered his material. A book that will jolt the average owner of stocks, and provide the text for many a tart letter to managements. There is an appendix with information that will appeal to the careful student, and also an index.

Continued on page lxxvi

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HOTEL CHARLOTTE HARBOR WILL OPEN JANUARY 1ST

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The Hotel Charlotte Harbor is in Punta Gorda on the West Coast of Florida, about one hundred miles south of Tampa. Above shows the hotel course.

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The INVESTOR

Continued from page lxxiv

THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES.
By Ralph H. Young
The National Industrial Conference Board
$5 9¼ x 6¼; 271 pp. *New York*

Under the supervision of the Staff Economic Council of the National Industrial Conference Board Mr. Ralph H. Young prepared a detailed analysis of the problems created by the position of the United States in world finance. There are excellent historical summaries of the international financial relations of the country when it was a debtor nation, and of the transition following the World War. Other chapters survey recent capital movements and the international influences on Federal Reserve policies. In conclusion, Mr. Young says that the United States has not been placing "larger and larger amounts of its available liquid capital supplies abroad, but has been mainly accumulating foreign securities by reinvesting interest, dividends and capital repayment sums received each year." An eventual excess of merchandise imports is predicted, so that a wider breach between bankers and industrialists may be expected. Neither this phase of the situation, nor the place of the tariff is considered. The book is replete with valuable statistical tables and charts; the absence of an index is regrettable.

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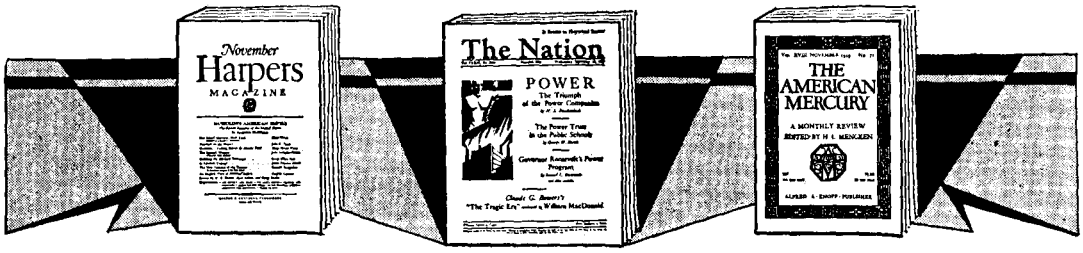

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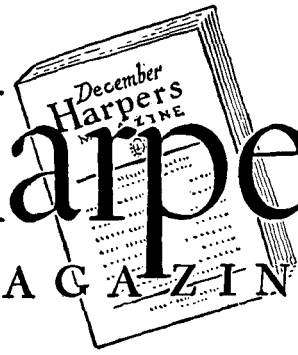

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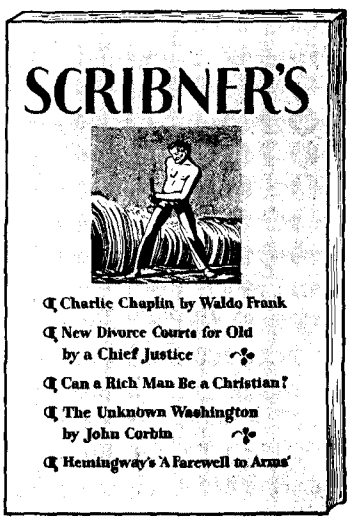

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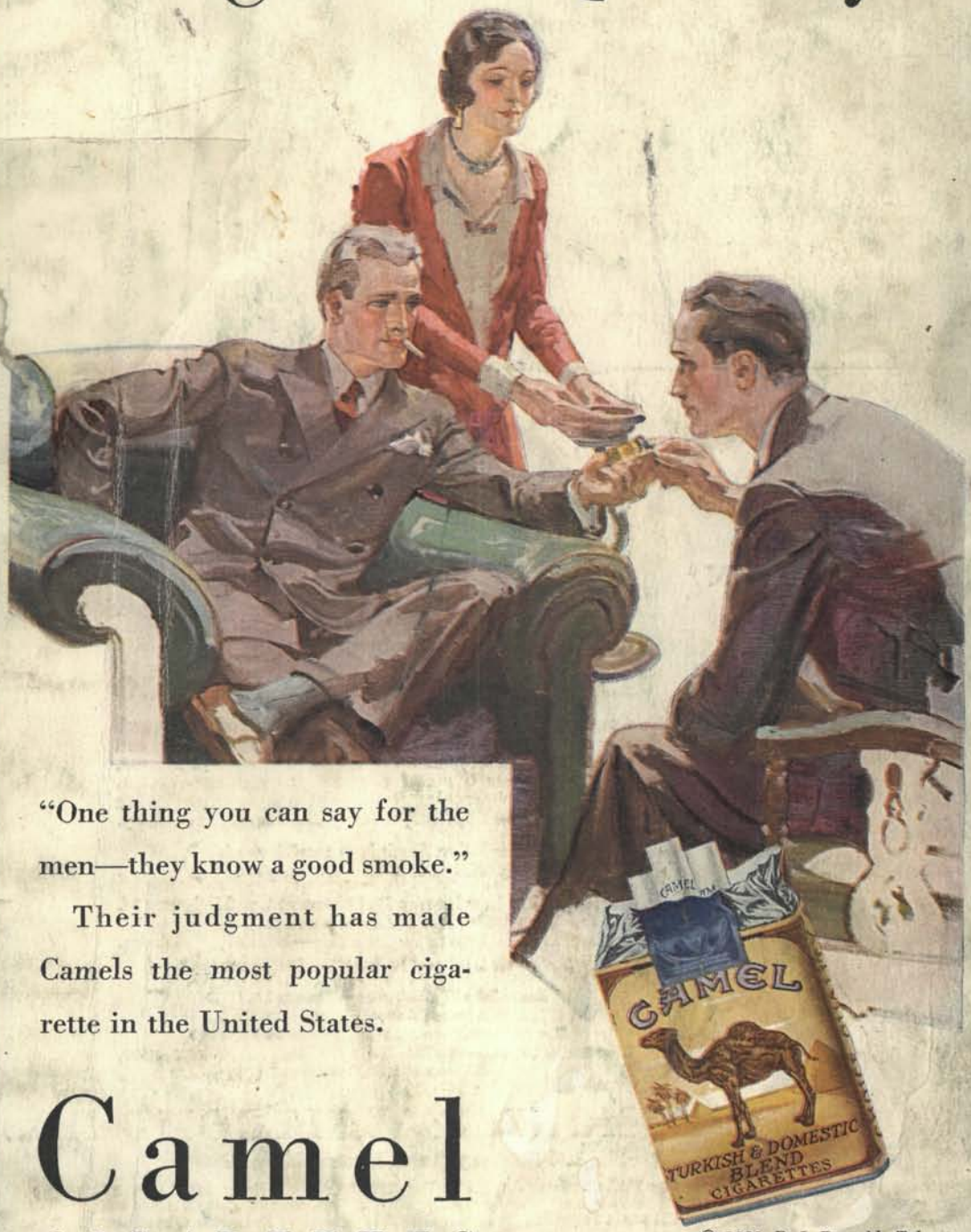

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